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U.S. distorts Soviet policy on Iran

MOSCOW (R) — The Soviet Union protested strongly Tuesday to the United States over alleged distortions of its policy toward Iran, the official TASS news agency reported. TASS said Washington officials had made "crude insinuations that Iran is under constant threat from the north and that it could be the object of Soviet invasion." The Soviet Foreign Ministry protested to the U.S. embassy in Moscow, saying that statements made in a recently published U.S. review of developments in the region were absurd invention from start to finish, TASS said. It added that Iran faced no threat from the Soviet Union and that Moscow wanted good relations with its southern neighbour. "The statements by American officials can only be described as deliberate slander against the policies of the Soviet Union," it quoted the Foreign Ministry as saying.

Three shot dead in north Lebanon

TRIPOLI, Lebanon (R) — Three anti-Syrian gunmen were shot dead in the Qabbah district of Tripoli Tuesday morning in an outbreak of fighting in the battle-scarred slum streets, Lebanese security sources said. In recent weeks there have been irregular eruptions of fighting in Tripoli involving groups opposed to Syrian control over northern Lebanon and pro-Syrian factions. The outbreaks have been minor compared with a series of battles last December and January when some 250 people died and 1,000 were wounded before Lebanese police moved into the affected areas.

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Bomb blasts central Beirut street

BEIRUT (R) — A bomb went off between two cars on central Beirut's main Hamra Street Monday night, causing extensive damage but no injuries, police said. The bomb wrecked the two cars and blew out the windows of several shops in the street which a few hours earlier had been packed with people, they added. The blast, heard throughout central Beirut, occurred at around 11 p.m. (2100 GMT) when few people were still on Hamra Street, site of major cinemas, shops and restaurants. "There was no indication of who planted the bomb, estimated to contain some six kilograms of explosives, the police said.

Thatcher refuses to name polls date

LONDON (R) — Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher turned aside demands to name the date of Britain's next general election Tuesday, telling parliament: "I shall not be hurried by anyone." Answering questions in parliament, she declared: "When I decide to seek an election it will be announced in the usual way. Until then it's business as usual."

Ruling Iranian party to hold congress

LONDON (R) — Iranian President Ali Khamenei said Tuesday the ruling Islamic Republican Party (IRP) is to hold a congress this month to ratify its constitution, the national news agency IRNA reported. Mr. Khamenei was quoted as saying there had been no changes in party policy since IRP Secretary-General Ayatollah Mohammad Beheshti died in a bomb blast at the party's headquarters in June 1981.

Israel seeks nuclear energy plant

TEL AVIV (R) — Israeli officials said Tuesday they want to buy a nuclear plant to produce electricity. The head of the atomic energy commission, Uzi Eilam, told reporters that if for political reasons no European country agreed to sell Israel such a plant it would create the infrastructure to build its own reactor.

No Polish amnesty during papal visit

WARSAW (R) — Polish authorities are not planning to grant a general amnesty for political prisoners as requested by the Pope before his visit to Poland in June, government spokesman Jerzy Urban said Tuesday. The spokesman confirmed that the Pope had asked for an amnesty in a letter to the Polish authorities.

Switzerland uncovers Iranian tank swindle

ZURICH (R) — Two Swiss men and a woman will be prosecuted this month on charges of swindling Iran out of millions of dollars in a bogus arms deal, the Zurich public prosecutor's office said Tuesday. The three, a 56-year-old former salesman named only as "M.B.", his wife and a 44-year-old laundry worker identified as "W.B.", are alleged to have obtained 540 million from a representative of the Iranian government in London in July 1981 by promising to deliver 50 American-made tanks to help the country's war effort against Iraq.

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Shultz, Beirut discuss latest Israeli stand

BEIRUT (R) — U.S. Secretary of State George Shultz returned here Tuesday from Israel to put the latest Israeli proposals for withdrawing its forces from Lebanon to Lebanese leaders.

It was his third trip to Lebanon in the past week in a Shuttle mission aimed at clinching an as yet elusive agreement on a deal for an Israeli pullout to clear the way for the withdrawal of all foreign forces from Lebanon. U.S. officials said Mr. Shultz and the Lebanese negotiating team would go over the latest version of a draft agreement, which was thrashed out in two days of talks with Israeli leaders, in order to try to bridge remaining differences holding up a deal. Reporters travelling with Mr. Shultz said he told them: "Things are coming to the point where closure on this is possible."

But U.S. officials said that, if an agreement was not concluded this week, negotiations could take another month. They did not elaborate. Mr. Shultz saw President Amin Gemayel briefly at the presidential palace outside Beirut before meeting the main Lebanese negotiating team led by Prime Minister Shafiq Al Wazzan.

State Department spokesman John Hughes told reporters after Mr. Shultz's initial two-hour session with Lebanese officials that he expected the secretary to remain in Beirut Tuesday night as talks seemed likely to go on late. Mr. Hughes said the first 30 minutes of Tuesday morning's session were taken up with a briefing by Foreign Minister Elie Salem on his trip to Damascus Monday to discuss progress in the withdrawal talks with Syrian President Hafez Al Assad and Foreign Minister Abdul Halim Khaddam.

Syria has some 40,000 Soviet-equipped troops in northern and eastern Lebanon confronting Israel's forces here. In addition, 6,000 Palestinian fighters are stationed in territory under overall Syrian control. Mr. Khaddam said after meeting Mr. Salem that Syria, which has pledged to pull its men out of Lebanon if there were a total Israeli withdrawal, would not act if it saw any "Israeli gains" in a withdrawal agreement.

Mr. Shultz, who visited Egypt before he began his Lebanon-Israel shuttle, has said he would like to go to Syria. But U.S. officials said he was unlikely to do so unless he had concrete proposals for an Israeli pull-out to put to Mr. Assad.

Diplomats in Damascus said Syria was likely to regard any provision in a withdrawal agreement for a residual Israeli presence in southern Lebanon, as Israel has sought, as an unacceptable "Israeli gain."

In addition, they said, Syria would reject a role in southern Lebanon for renegade Lebanese army Major Saad Haddad and his Israeli-backed militia, as Israel also wants.

But Israeli officials, who declined to be named, told reporters in Israel Tuesday as Mr. Shultz left for Beirut that progress had been made on all issues still dividing Israel and Lebanon, in the four-month-old negotiations. They cited the role of U.N. forces in South Lebanon, the establishment of joint Israeli-Lebanese supervising teams to monitor the agreement, and the free movement of goods and people between the two countries as areas in which progress had been made.

After meeting Israeli Foreign Minister Yitzhak Shamir and Defence Minister Moshe Arens, Mr. Shultz said Tuesday: "I think now we have a good clear notion of where we can go in these discussions."

In his statement Tuesday, Foreign Minister Salem said: "I believe we are now at a stage where we should also be talking to other Arab states and be consulting with them."

He did not specify which states he meant.



His Majesty King Hussein receives a bouquet from a schoolgirl during a tour he made of the Jordan Valley Tuesday (Petra photo)

Hussein tours Jordan Valley

AMMAN (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein, accompanied by His Royal Highness Crown Prince Hassan and senior Jordanian leaders, Tuesday visited the Jordan Valley and inspected various projects being implemented there by the Jordan Valley Authority (JVA).

The King also opened a number of new projects and handed over title deeds of new agricultural units to farmers in the region.

The King's tour of the region started with a visit to Al Mukhayb area where JVA President Munther Haddadin made a welcoming speech, praising the King's continuous support for JVA projects.

Commenting on the area's drinking water needs, Dr. Haddadin said that the JVA has developed a number of wells in the region, and that a new well discovered last June, Al Mukhayb well, will contribute to fulfilling the needs of Irbid Governorate. The requirement, he said, is estimated at 38 million cubic metres until the year 2000.

The King handed over awards to a number of personnel working at the Al Mukhayb project and inspected the operation of the project.

King Hussein and his entourage, which included Prime Minister Mudar Badran, Royal Court Chief Ahmad Al Lawzi, Chief Chamberlain Prince Ra'd Ibn Zaid, Armed Forces Commander-in-Chief Lt. Gen.

Sharif Zaid Ibn Shaker and a number of senior officials, later visited the Nohh Shuneh Girls Secondary School and toured its various sections.

At Wadi Araba, the King inaugurated a new water project designed to contribute to fulfilling the drinking water needs of Irbid Governorate.

The new well is expected to pump over 20 million cubic metres of water to various parts of the governorate. It includes a major pipeline network with three pumping stations and a 110,000-cubic-metre water tank near Irbid. The JD 14 million project, which also includes water storage facilities, and a water purification plant, is expected to be completed by 1984.

The King also visited the Wadi Al Araba dam, which is expected to irrigate an area of 12,500 dunams of agricultural land in the northern parts of the Jordan Valley.

The dam's storage capacity is estimated at 9.1 million cubic metres. On completion in 1984, the dam will form a lake, two kilometres long and 300 metres in width and is estimated to cost JD 9.7 million.

The King also inspected work currently under way to expand the dam with the aim of increasing its storage capacity to 20 million cubic metres to irrigate 28,000 dunams of land by modern methods.

The King then visited hot water wells in northern Shuneh and the

Abu Ubaydeh Hospital in Wadi Al Yabis.

At Al Qarn in Wadi Al Yabis the King inaugurated a marketing centre which will render marketing services to the farmers in the Jordan Valley.

The King also inaugurated the Deir Alla - Amman drinking water project, which is considered one of the biggest drinking water projects in the country. The project is expected to be completed in early 1985 and a major 1,200-inch water pipeline will be installed to pump water from Deir Alla to Amman. Furthermore, a major water tank with a storage capacity of 346,000 cubic metres will be constructed in Suweilch area in addition to a water purification plant in Zayy as well as five pumping stations and power lines to operate the pumping and purification stations.

The project, which is estimated to cost JD 38 million, will provide 45 million cubic metres of water per year to cover drinking water needs of Amman and Al Balqa Governorate.

The King then visited a model farm in Deir Alla where modern methods of production are used. At a ceremony in Ma'adi area, the King handed over title deeds of new agricultural units to farmers.

At another ceremony at Al Kufra, the King also handed over title deeds of new agricultural units to farmers. Fifty farmers obtained title deeds in Ma'adi and Al Kufra in the two ceremonies.

King's letter to Tunis details threats to Arabs

TUNIS (Petra) — His Majesty King Hussein has sent a message to Tunisian President Habib Bourguiba dealing with the current Arab and international situation and the "dangers facing the area as a result of Israel's continued colonialisation of the occupied Palestinian lands and the evacuation of its residents, Foreign Minister Marwan Al Qasem, who delivered the message to Mr. Bourguiba on Tuesday, told the Tunis correspondent of the Jordanian News Agency, Petra.

Mr. Qasem said that such a policy would "inflict harm on Palestinian and Arab interests and pose a danger to the Arab Nation."

Mr. Qasem added that during his meeting with President Bourguiba, the Tunisian leader made a "realistic and objective analysis" of the issues raised in the message, and that Tunisian views were identical with those of Jordan.

President Bourguiba expressed his "appreciation of King Hussein's continuous efforts to save the Palestinian people and lands from the yoke of occupation," Mr. Qasem said.

Mr. Qasem's meeting with President Bourguiba was attended by Tunisian Foreign Minister Albaji

Al Qa'd Al Sebsi and Jordanian Ambassador to Tunis Nabih Al Nimr.

Later Tuesday, Mr. Qasem discussed with Mr. Sebsi bilateral relations and the current Arab situation.

In a statement to newsmen following the meeting, Mr. Qasem said Jordan is committed to all Arab summit resolutions on Palestine starting from the 1974 Rabat summit and ending with the Fez summit in 1982.

Asked about the contents of King Hussein's message to President Bourguiba, Mr. Qasem said it "explains the Jordanian position towards the current situation in the Middle East and the dangers posed by the continued Israeli settlement of the occupied West Bank and the evacuation of Palestinian residents."

Mr. Qasem said his mission in Tunisia is to explain the new developments in the area beginning from the Israeli invasion of Lebanon last year today.

Mr. Qasem said he also met with Arab League Secretary General Chadli Kilibi, and was briefed on his assessment and views of the current situation.

Mr. Qasem returned to Amman Tuesday evening.

CAEU, Somalia sign statistics agreement

AMMAN (Petra) — The Council of Arab Economic Unity (CAEU) will render technical assistance to Somalia to conduct its population census in 1985, according to an agreement signed here Tuesday.

Under the terms of the agreement, the assistance will include setting up statistical offices, preparing training programmes for Somali personnel as well providing them with technical equipment.

The agreement, the sixth of its kind to be signed between the CAEU and Somalia, was signed on behalf of the council by its Secretary-General, Mahdi Al Ubaydi, and Somalia's Central Statistics Department Director General Awl Farih, for the country.

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Iranian shelling killed 50 civilians, Iraq says

BAGHDAD (R) — More than 50 Iraqi civilians were killed or wounded when Iranian forces shelled the town of Zubayr, near Basrah, in southern Iraq last week, a civil defence official was quoted Tuesday as saying.

According to the Al Jumhuriya newspaper, the official said the Iraqis shelled Zubayr 13 times, killing 17 civilians and wounding 39.

Zubayr lies about 10 kilometres southwest of Basrah port on the Shatt Al Arab waterway.

The civil defence official was quoted as saying that 13 houses and 20 shops had been destroyed in the town, which has a population of several thousand.

An Iraqi military spokesman in Baghdad said Monday Iraq would retaliate if Iran continued to shell civilian installations.

Iran says accord reached with Gulf states on slick

KUWAIT (R) — Iran has reached an understanding with six Gulf states on how to tackle a massive oil slick caused by damaged Iranian wells at the head of the Gulf, Iran's Ambassador to Kuwait Al Shams Ardekani said Tuesday.

Mr. Shams told Reuters by telephone his country and six members of the Gulf Cooperation Council (GCC) had reached an understanding which entailed the creation of a demilitarised zone near Iran's Nowruz oilfield where the shattered oil wells are located.

Mr. Shams said Iran together with Saudi Arabia, Kuwait, Bahrain, Oman, Qatar and the United Arab Emirates also agreed repair work should be supervised by the Kuwait-based Regional Organisation for the Protection of the Environment which groups the eight littoral states.

Iran is this year's chairman of the organisation and the ambassador has presided over three abortive meetings here in the last five weeks to find a solution to the slick crisis.

He said the Iranian position was conveyed in a message to Kuwaiti Prime Minister Sheikh Sabah Al Ahmad Al Sabah.

Iraq has offered a limited ceasefire in the Nowruz area, but Iran has repeatedly said this was an inappropriate formula.

It was not clear whether the ambassador's comment meant the two sides were closer to an agreement.

Efforts to reach a political accord on the issue have failed so far amid political wrangling between Iran and Iraq, locked in the Gulf war now in its 32nd month.

An estimated 2,000 to 8,000 barrels of oil a day have been pouring from the damaged wells into the Gulf waters.

Officials in Qatar nearly 300 miles from the Nowruz field said lumps of congealed oil, possibly from the slick, had been washed onto the state's northern coast and work was continuing to clear the beaches.

But they said the offer would have to be carefully studied to establish whether it indicated a real shift in the Soviet position.

Referring to his December offer, Mr. Andropov said the West's objection to his December statement was that it would leave Moscow with more warheads than NATO.

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Arafat meets Assad

DAMASCUS (R) — Syrian President Hafez Al Assad received Palestinian Liberation Organisation (PLO) Chairman Yasser Arafat in Damascus Tuesday, the first time they had met formally since September, a presidential spokesman said.

Relations have been strained between Mr. Arafat and the Syrian leader because Damascus opposed Mr. Arafat's talks with Jordan on a possible joint effort to reach Middle East peace efforts, diplomats here said.

Mr. Arafat has been in Damascus since Sunday for meetings of PLO military chiefs.

The last time the two men met for talks was in September, after the evacuation of PLO forces from Beirut following Israel's invasion of Lebanon.

They saw each other again when Mr. Arafat briefly embraced Mr. Assad after the latter made a speech to the non-aligned summit conference in New Delhi in March.

The Palestinian news agency Wafa. in a Damascus-dated dispatch issued in Nicosia, said the Arafat-Assad meeting lasted four hours in "an atmosphere of friendship and brotherhood."

The two men discussed recent developments in the region, "including Israeli concentrations and provocations against the Syrian and Palestinian forces in the Bekaa and northern Lebanon," Wafa reported.

Thais sceptical of Vietnamese withdrawal

BANGKOK (R) — Thailand said Tuesday it was too early to judge whether the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops from Phnom Penh would lead to an easing of tension along its border with Kampuchea.

Foreign Minister Siddhi Savetila also told reporters that Thailand might consider negotiations with Hanoi if Vietnam moved its forces at least 30 kilometres from the ill-defined border.

He spoke after Vietnam reported that it had begun to withdraw one division and six brigades and regiments from Kampuchea under an agreement reached by the three Indochina states—Vietnam, Kampuchea and Laos.

They left after an elaborately staged ceremony and foreign journalists in Phnom Penh said about 1,500 Vietnamese troops were involved.

Athens insists on full control over Aegean

ATHENS (R) — Greek Prime Minister Andreas Papandreu said Tuesday a North Atlantic Treaty Organisation (NATO) command could be set up in Greece under a 1980 agreement only after the alliance restored to Greece full operational control in the Aegean.

He told reporters that NATO headquarters and Turkey were still insisting that operational control be shared out through negotiations after and not before the proposed command was set up in Larisa, northern Greece.

But Mr. Papandreu said he was not optimistic that Greece and NATO could reach an early agreement on the command. "For the time being, I do not see a very rosy outlook for the settlement of this issue," he said.

France backs independent Kampuchea, blasts rebels

PEKING (R) — President Francois Mitterrand Tuesday condemned Vietnam's occupation of Kampuchea but also criticised the Chinese-backed Khmer Rouge who are fighting to regain power in Phnom Penh.

Speaking at a state banquet on the first day of his visit to China, Mr. Mitterrand described Kampuchea's former Khmer Rouge rulers as a "bloody and, to our eyes, inexcusable regime."

He told his host, Premier Zhao Ziyang, that France would back efforts to restore independence, peace and neutrality to Kampuchea, but saw the withdrawal of Vietnamese troops and free elections under international control as the only solution.

China and France have recently differed publicly over the policy to adopt towards Hanoi's occupation of Kampuchea, and the issue had been expected to dominate Mr.

France backs independent Kampuchea, blasts rebels

Mitterrand's talks here with Chinese leaders.

Mr. Mitterrand also spoke out on the other topic expected to loom large in the talks — the possible transfer of French advanced technology to China.

He said France jealously guarded its military and technological independence, but was ready to offer China "a bold industrial cooperation... to ensure that its independence too cannot be called into question."

The president also said that during his four-day stay, French officials would discuss the possible sale to China of advanced Mirage 2000 combat planes.

However, his banquet speech was dominated by Kampuchea, an end to whose suffering he said France would love to see.

China fiercely opposed Vietnam's 1979 move into Kampuchea.

HOME NEWS

Seminar on the role of women in Jordan's labour market commemorates International Labour Day

Anani: Government committed to investment in female employment

By Affah A. Kaloti
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — A seminar on "Women's Contribution to Jordan's Labour Force" held to commemorate International Labour Day was held Monday at the Amman Chamber of Industry.

Three papers were prepared for the seminar, by Minister of Labour Jawad Al Anani, National Consultative Council Member Laila Al Sharaf and Dr. Zaki Al Ayoubi, a businessman.

Dr. Anani's paper was read by a club member and moderator of the seminar Tujan Faisal in the absence of the minister who was unable to attend having been urgently called away to Switzerland.

The seminar, which was organized by the Amman Club for Business and Professional Women, was opened by Mrs. Hind Abdul Jabbar, the club's president.

In the opening speech, Mrs. Abdul Jabbar pointed out that the seminar is only one of the activities which the club carries out. She said that the club aims at motivating and encouraging Jordanian women to carry out their responsibilities both in society and in utilizing their professional capabilities.

She added that "our aim is to find job opportunities for women and involve them in the social, political and economic aspects of life."

In briefing the seminar on the club's future activities, Mrs. Abdul Jabbar pointed out that the club is currently conducting a survey on "women's contribution in commercial, agricultural and industrial development".

The study, she said, is being

undertaken in cooperation with the ministries of social development and labour.

"I believe that the women's contribution to the labour force has become a reality witnessed by the various sectors of industry, commerce, agriculture, education, banking and in other professions."

Dr. Jawad Al Anani said in his paper that Jordan is currently investing a lot of money to build up the female labour pool. The ratio of girls studying at preparatory schools is only a little less than the boys, while in the secondary phase, 45 per cent of the students are girls.

However, he pointed out, at the university level, the ratio becomes less for a variety of reasons. Nevertheless, Jordanian universities are open for women, and no less than 40 per cent of university students are females. At the school of pharmacy at the University of Jordan, for instance, "I believe, there are only four males," he said.

At the community college level, the ratio of girls becomes less and goes down below 25 per cent of the total students at these colleges. As for intermediate vocational training, he added females constitute a small ratio which is not above 15 per cent.

"If we add up these figures to reach an approximate total," he said, "discover that general spending on investment in women alone in the country is no less than JD 45 million."

His paper went to estimate the number of working women at 40,000; most of whom are employed in clerical and office work. A woman's average annual income is estimated at JD 1,200 mak-

ing the total annual income of working women around JD 50 million, he said.

This represents a new economic power for women, which cannot be overlooked, he stressed. Nevertheless, the total income obtained by women is more than is represented in these wages, he said. "Some of them own shares in shareholding companies, others own property; most of them own movable or immovable property particularly through inheritance," he explained.

"A phenomenon worth studying," he observed, is the emergence of the business-women; a profession which has previously been monopolised by men. Though it is difficult to assess the income acquired from these businesses, it is no less than JD 25 million," he estimated. Women in Jordan, he went on to say, acquire an annual income of around JD 75 million, or the equivalent of 8 per cent of the government's total spendable income.

However, "we should bear in mind that the women's income in Jordan is more than JD 75 million, because there are women who receive money from their husbands working abroad," he pointed out. "Furthermore, there is currently a trend towards letting women take charge of the household budget and the ensuing spending. Consequently, women now decide on no less than one third of the spendable income in Jordan, amounting to a total of JD 300 million."

"The economic power of women is most apparent in those who work for a living, where women play a role in decision-making. They often constitute the "back-

bone" of government departments, companies and enterprises, while some own real estate, and shares, he said.

"I would also like to emphasise, under the present difficult economic conditions, the significance of the economic role of women and its impact on shaping the future of Jordan," he said. The role of women will certainly become more important in the future, because of the growing role of women in the financial, labour and business markets", he concluded.

Mrs. Sbaraf said that it is very tempting to be self-congratulatory about the contribution of women to the labour force. It would be very easy, she said, firstly, to discuss the advances in the rights of working women and the important role played by such women in national development."

Secondly, she added, it would be nice to the numbers of working women, and their rising ratios in the labour force. However, she stated, "I will not surrender to such a tempting discussion."

She explained that the women's role in national development has become a reality only because it has been imposed by the current conditions of necessity. "I am not going to treat this subject statistically, but by giving the main principles involved in the women's contribution to the labour force."

She said that women's work potential used to exist rigidly within the framework of the given social structure. "Roles were very clear and acceptable, and all women were satisfied and proud of what they were doing," she explained.

A scientific study, she pointed out, had never been undertaken to

assess the benefits or setbacks of female employment on the social structure. "This framework has since been altered by the economic conditions which have increasingly necessitated that women must work," she said.

Mrs. Sbaraf said that the fact that women gained education and travelled to other countries are also factors that "broadened their knowledge and increased their independence."

The second principle that Mrs. Sbaraf went on to name was that of motherhood. "In our society the term is holy only in name and special attention is rarely paid to the needs of the mother if she needs to find employment."

She stressed that to preserve the role of motherhood, especially when the mother is also contributing in the labour force, there "should be broad, accompanying facilities to ensure that working mothers enjoy their proper rights."

"In this regard the establishment of nursery schools," she said, "is a positive trend that does not go far enough."

Mrs. Sbaraf emphasised that the old traditions and customs, which grew up as a result of the old prevailing social conditions, are not in compliance with our current needs. As such we should do everything in our power to instigate a "new scientific approach" to change them.

The family, she emphasised, is most important in the preservation of our Islamic and Arab society.

Mrs. Sbaraf continued that the family is the nucleus of society, and, if shaken, will result in the corruption of the whole society. "What is required nowadays, is

to leave behind the role imposed upon women, in our society so as to facilitate national development without the incumbrance of any archaic restrictions," she said.

While women, Mrs. Sbaraf added, should prove their ability in contributing effectively to the society and hence to the labour force, society, on the other hand, should look objectively at women and help rather than obstruct them in their efforts to realise their full potential.

She concluded that all these changes could be achieved if the future generations of both sexes were brought up to respect the role of the modern women.

Dr. Ayoubi started off by saying "I believe that the topic under discussion is one of the most important subjects for manpower developments at the local, regional and international levels."

He pointed out that "building up our own labour potential is one of the most important ideas that we have striven for in the last few years." "We have often heard much about the strategic importance of building our own individual self-strength, but we have rarely heard anything on how to build Jordan's self-strength and how an average Jordanian citizen can contribute," he said.

Self-strength, he emphasised, is not only restricted to the military arena but as part of socio-economic development is an indispensable phase in the attainment of this.

In order to fulfil the potential of Jordanian society, he added, it is vital to increase both production, and labour productivity. "Among the most important ways to promote national production is to increase the woman's contribution to

the country's labour force," he went on to say. "Hence," Dr. Ayoubi added, "it is fair to say that the Jordanian woman is the key to increasing production in Jordan over the coming twenty years."

He stressed that his words were not luxury talk but "an urgent necessity to combat difficult problems in the drive for the mobilisation of social forces in Jordan."

Referring to the contribution of women in the economic activity of the country, Dr. Ayoubi said that, according to statistics published in 1967, the numbers of women between the ages of 15 to 64 working in Jordan was 8.4 per cent. And this figure probably underestimated the actual total as it does not include women's participation in the agricultural sector, he added.

He pointed out that the lack of data available in the agricultural sector leads to difficulty in assessing the real total of female employment.

Dr. Ayoubi pointed out that there is also no reliable data on the average number of women in the workforce after 1976, and "though a population census has been undertaken in 1979, its results have not been disclosed." Thus, he said, we only have rough comparative figures at the pan-Arab level.

We do know from this comparison that in Jordan the percentage of women in the labour force is higher than in most other countries, although both Lebanon and Tunisia had a higher proportion than Jordan.

Dr. Ayoubi pointed out that there are many factors that affect the contribution of women in Jordan's economic activity. According to a thesis produced by Isa Masarwah, he said, female employment has been constant within certain age groups for the past 20 years with the age group of 20-30 years providing the bulk of women employed in the labour force.

Social status is another factor that affects women's participation, he pointed out. The number of children per family also has a reciprocal relationship on the participation of women with "the higher the number, the less the participation," he said.

Education, however, he pointed out, has a positive impact. He said that women obtaining education up to degree level are more likely to work.

Cultural factors also contribute to the level of women's participation, with factors "such as religion, social values and disciplines," being important, he said. But, he pointed out, society's view of working women is also changing all the time.

In Dr. Ayoubi's opinion, skills that will be required from women in the coming 20 years will be the languages, computer science, and administrative skills.

Dr. Ayoubi concluded by calling for more statistical studies to be conducted to deal directly with issues relating to the participation of women, and suggested that "women should take part in the design and execution of these studies."

The floor was then opened for debate, during which Princess Wijdan participated in the discussion, and Dr. Tayseer Abdul Jabbar, under-secretary in the Ministry of Labour, answered questions on behalf of Dr. Anani.

JORDAN MARKETPLACE

MISC.

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Majali inaugurates annual exhibition on U. of J. campus

AMMAN (Petra) — University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali opened Tuesday the annual university exhibition, organised by the Dean of Student Affairs Office.

The three-day exhibition will include photographs, brochures, and posters of the university as well as a list of all the university graduates up to the academic year 1982-83.

Since its establishment, the university has graduated 13,157 stu-

dents with Bachelor of Arts degrees, 1,707 Diploma students, and 389 students with Masters of Arts degrees.

There are currently 11,549 students studying at the various faculties in the university, which has a teaching staff of 458 full-time lecturers and professors.

The exhibition will also include paintings and drawings produced by the students as well as handicrafts made by foreign students studying at the university.



University of Jordan President Abdul Salam Al Majali Tuesday opens the annual exhibition organised on the university campus (Petra photo)

JTV Tafilah relay station operational

AMMAN (Petra) — Jordan Television Engineering Department Director Radi Al Khuss announced Tuesday that the television relay station in Tafilah is now ready for operations.

Mr. Khuss explained that the only reason for not beginning operations at the station on time is

that the electric current has not yet been connected up to the station.

He went on to say that Jordan Television is working in earnest with the Jordan Electricity Authority (JEA) to link the station with the main current, and consequently to begin its operations.

Romanian gymnasts delighted by warm reception from Jordanian audiences

By Ara Voskian
Special to the Jordan Times

AMMAN — The Romanian national gymnastics team in Jordan gave the Jordanian public a magnificent opportunity to watch and enjoy the thrilling performances of the visiting gymnasts which included the world famous Olympic star Nadia Comaneci.

The team, which was composed of nine gymnasts, arrived in Amman Wednesday April 27 for a week-long visit to Jordan at the invitation of the Jordanian Gymnastics Federation.

The Romanian gymnasts gave several superb performances during their visit, the first of which was Thursday April 28 in the gymnasium hall inside Al Hussein Sports City in the presence of His Majesty King Hussein, Her Majesty Queen Noor, high ranking officials and more than 3,000 spectators.

Speaking to the Jordan Times, through the Romanian coach Octavian Bellu at the Jordan International Hotel, the international superstar Nadia Comaneci said that Jordan is different from European countries, "the people are very kind and eager to know all about gymnastics."

The Romanian coach continued to praise the Jordanian public who showed their great interest in gymnastics by coming in thousands to watch the Romanian team, especially Nadia.

With reference to the Jordanian

Gymnastics Federation Mr. Bellu said "It is very hard to start a federation but, although the Jordanian federation does not have the most modern equipment, they have been very much interested to learn from us."

He continued to say that the federation did its best to arrange all the events in a similar way to world class competitions.

World class

Throughout the world, the Romanian team is regarded as a world class team in the same vein as the Soviet Union, Chinese and American teams.

During the last two Olympic games in Montreal and Moscow, the Romanian athletes, especially Nadia Comaneci, have excelled in their performances in a way that overshadowed most other international athletes.

Commenting on the two Olympic events, Nadia said that her performance in Moscow in 1980 was much better than the one in Montreal in 1976.

"In Montreal I was competing with gymnasts who were at the end of their career, while in Moscow the competition was very strong. Winning two gold medals in Moscow was better than all the awards at Montreal."

The 21-year-old Romanian star began gymnastics at the age of six at a sporting club in Onesti, which is 300 kilometres away from Bucharest. She soared into international stardom at the Eur-



JORDANIAN SCULPTURE: At the Spanish Culture Centre until May 11 is an exhibition of the paintings, sculptures and ceramics of 21 Jordanian artists, including leading names such as Princess Wijdan Ali, Yaser Duweik, Ahmad

Nawash, Tawfiq El-Sayed, Karam Nimri, Mahmoud Taha, Mans El-Sandi, and Sahar Kamhawi. The exhibition which comprises 45 pieces, is the second group show the Spanish Cultural Centre has held, the aim of which is to promote Jordanian art.

Arabiyaat opens school show

AMMAN (Petra) — Education Ministry Secretary-General Abdul Latif Arabiyat opened Tuesday the annual exhibition staged by the Salahuldeen Secondary School at Jahal Al Ashrafiah in Amman.

The three-day exhibition includes works by students in the fields of science, art, languages and education indicating the student's skills and their ability to translate their ideas into reality.



Education Ministry Secretary-General Abdul Latif Arabiyat (second from right) opens Tuesday the annual exhibition at the Salahuldeen Secondary School in Amman (Petra photo)

Exhibition marks 'week of handicapped children'

ZARQA (Petra) — "Handicapped Children's Week" was inaugurated here Tuesday at the Al Manar Centre for mentally handicapped children.

To mark the occasion, the director of the special education department at the Social Development Ministry opened an exhibition of paintings, handicrafts,

IPU Arab block motion roundly condemns Israel

AMMAN (Petra) — The Jordanian parliamentary delegation to the Inter-Parliamentary Union's (IPU) Conference which concluded in Helsinki on April 29, returned to Amman Tuesday.

Upper House of Parliament Speaker Ahmad Al Tarawneh, in his capacity as chairman of the delegation, told the Jordanian News Agency, Petra, that the conference's committee had drafted the agenda for the union's conference which will be held in Seoul, South Korea this autumn.

The agenda includes a number of topics on ways to strengthen the United Nations. These concentrate on ways of enabling the U.N. to implement its resolutions and recommendations, resolve disputes among member states as well as solving international problems and supervising disarmament talks aimed at curbing dangers posed to world peace.

Speaker Tarawneh added that among other topics on the agenda are the elimination of colonialism, the protection of the economic,

social and cultural independence of nations, the encouragement of cooperation among all peoples and the spreading of the spirit of justice amongst all states.

Other topics to be discussed include how to enhance and improve educational, training and employment opportunities for young people, particularly in Third World countries.

The issues of trade, finance, and the transfer of technology will also be discussed.

Speaker Tarawneh said the Arab block submitted a resolution to the conference calling for the condemnation of Israel's invasion of Lebanon, and for its immediate withdrawal from that country's territories.

The resolution also holds Israel responsible for the massacre of Palestinian refugees at the Sabra

and Shatila camps. It also calls for Israel's withdrawal from all the Arab territories occupied in the 1967 war, the removal of Israeli settlements, and an end to the oppressive, inhumanitarian acts which Israel is today carrying out in the occupied territories.

Speaker Tarawneh said the resolution also calls for the establishment of a just and comprehensive peace in the Middle East, the recognition of the Palestinian people's right to self-determination and the establishment of an independent state on their national soil under the leadership of the Palestine Liberation Organisation (P.L.O.).

The resolution also calls for the recognition of the Fez summit resolutions as a basic step towards a just solution of the Middle East problem, and appeals to other countries not to cooperate with Israel as long as it insists on a policy of non implementation of the United Nations resolutions, Mr. Tarawneh concluded.

APC meeting convened

AMMAN (Petra) — The annual general meeting of the Arab Potash Company (APC) convened Monday at the APC site in the southern Jordan Valley during which it approved the APC annual report and general budget.

APC Board of Directors Chairman and General Manager Ali Al Khasawneh pointed out the significance of the potash project which was implemented on time, as well as its benefits for the Jordanian economy.

He reiterated that the potash project was completed on March 18, 1982 when actual production and the commercial exportation of potash to international markets began.

Speaking about the company's future projects, Mr. Khasawneh said that the APC is continuing feasibility studies on projects to utilise the by-products of potash, such as potassium sulphate, magnesium oxide and sodium chloride.

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Emulate the success of the Jordan Valley

HIS Majesty King Hussein's tour of the Jordan Valley on Tuesday is a happy occasion not only for the Valley's inhabitants and those who have worked so relentlessly to develop it but for each and every one of us here in Jordan. The achievements there are simply too great to be overlooked.

The Jordan Valley Authority (JVA) was entrusted with developing the area agriculturally, economically and socially in 1973. Since then, it has started and successfully carried out major irrigation and construction projects. Statistics show that the population of the Valley rose from 60,000 then to 160,000 now, schools, hospitals, clinics, roads, and social centres sprang up on an unprecedented scale.

During these 10 years, income from agricultural produce rose from JD 6 million to over JD 50 million, and there are plans under way to raise this figure even higher.

The accomplishments are many more, and varied. But the single most important achievement remains that of how people's attachment to the land proved to be a success story in this vital part of the country.

This effort has not ended in the Jordan Valley, and it should be extended to the rest of the country—farms, villages and smaller towns.

What we need most now is regional development elsewhere, and a concerted effort on the parts of the government and the Jordanian citizen to see the rest of our development process through.

There is more to do in the Jordan Valley itself, as there are things that have not been done yet. The JVA's experience may not be perfect, but it definitely is a good one that could and should be emulated elsewhere for the common good of this country and its citizens.

ARABIC PRESS EDITORIALS

Al-Ruh: Still no progress in talks

ALTHOUGH the final results of the Shultz mission cannot yet be predicted, there are no indications that the withdrawal of non-Lebanese troops from Lebanon will take place soon.

Three or four days ago, Mr. Shultz told newsmen that the negotiations were progressing. Since then, he has not spoken of progress, and was content to talk about the "good climate" of the meetings. Then Shultz's press secretary, Lawrence Eagleburger, made a statement in Washington saying that Mr. Shultz might not be able now to achieve an agreement between Lebanon and Israel. Thus, after one week in the area, the U.S. Secretary of State has not produced any evidence of U.S. credibility in the region.

Needless to say, it was the U.S. administration itself which concentrated on the importance of the time element in the area. Time is passing by, and the U.S. administration cannot relinquish the responsibility for Lebanon's crisis. Furthermore, there are fears that there is a possibility of the Shultz mission by the use of delaying tactics.

Eagleburger's statement about continued U.S. efforts in the area does not mean that the United States is giving up its credibility, as mere endeavours to produce evidence of credibility. Only solid results are evidence of credibility, and these results, in order to be substantive, must include the withdrawal of troops from Lebanon and a freeze on Israeli settlements in the occupied Palestinian lands.

Al-Dustur: People, monarch march on

MONARCHY is the only form of government of the Majesty King Hussein's accession to the throne. This anniversary, we find our people more determined than ever to support the monarchy. The economic, social, educational and cultural progress, even though the resources we have in our country are limited, is a clear proof of this.

Throughout the past 10 years, there has been a determination to build a strong Jordan and to overcome all obstacles which block Jordan's development. The greatest lesson we have learned over the last 10 years is that the people, under the leadership of King Hussein, have succeeded in achieving a goal to protect their country, and also to march forward in the ability to develop. The monarch and the people, who together have faced the most difficult of circumstances and overcome the toughest of obstacles, are still capable of continuing the march in order to protect and develop the country to perform its pan-Arab role.

Sawt Al-Sham: Economic fruits born

WHILE we are celebrating the 30th anniversary of the King's accession to the throne, the King has been eager to reaffirm that a strong Jordan remains the only way to cope with the challenges and dangers we are currently facing. Proceeding from this policy, King Hussein turned Tuesday a number of projects in the Jordan Valley.

Since the inception of systematic economic development in the country, which the King has been paying special attention to, the Jordan Valley projects have constituted the backbone of development in Jordan, and since the launching of the first development plan. The aim of these projects in the long run is to reach self-sufficiency.

As part of this effort, Jordan has given priority to the utilisation of water resources and the reclamation of land as well as their fair distribution. Meanwhile, the government has provided all requirements for development: from housing, health and educational services to roads as part of an integrated plan to develop the Jordan Valley.

Thus Jordan has begun to achieve the qualitative leap forward in economic development, and is reaping the fruits of the seeds which King Hussein sowed when he assumed his constitutional powers.

DE FACTONOMICS

Towards a new industrial policy

By T.A. Jaber

The Jordanian industrial sector is going through difficult times creating concern among Jordanian government officials and private businessmen. Consequently, a full day meeting was held last Saturday (April 30, '83) in which the problems of Jordan's industry and their solutions were assessed at length. However, this commentary was written prior to that meeting.

There are indications of the difficulties faced by the industrial sector. The industrial production index of January and February, 1983, is 16 per cent lower than that of December 1982. Private investments in industrial projects have been low except in capital subscriptions of large mixed projects. Industrial exports are facing shrinking markets abroad, particularly in Iraq. The share price index for industry has been on the decrease to a level lower than that of 1980.

Secondary effects will result from these developments if a new industrial policy is not effected. With lower demand, industrial production tends to slow down further. Labour lay-offs would result as well as lower profitability. Then, less private investment would be directed to industry which is not in line with the main objective of Jordan's development planning; namely, the enhancement of commodity sectors in restructuring the economy.

A new industrial policy should be enforced to assist local industries and enable them to stand firmly on their feet. Indeed, policy-making should always be dynamic and active. This applies most to industrialization in a developing country where investment opportunities in trade and other services are more profitable with a better chance of tax deduction.

What then should be done? Necessary policies may be known by the government officials concerned. But what is lacking is a decisive approach to pursue these policies, and enact them as a package. A new industrial policy should include the following over-all guidelines:

- 1) Reorganisation of the Amman Chamber of Industry to become an effective spokesman of the industrial sector in all its industrial groupings. Its functions should be widened and its staff has in future to include research and marketing specialists. While this task lies basically with the private industrialists, the Ministry of Industry and Trade can assist in the reorganisation and strengthening of the chamber.
- 2) The Trade Centres Corporation should be re-considered to play more effectively the role of export promoter and not merely to allocate approved quotas in a few markets. Due to the limited size of the Jordanian economy, the success of our industries depends on their ability to export. Exporting has to be encouraged through various measures such as trade missions, trade agreements, export credit and others.

3) Since exporting tends to be constrained by many exogenous factors, a larger share of our local market has to be preserved for local industries, particularly where a product is being supplied by more than one firm. Thus, a protectionist policy should be applied to safeguard our industrial establishments and secure continued employment. Import quotas have to be used selectively and reviewed regularly. This applies to many items including bottled water, detergents, furniture, canned food, biscuits and many others.

4) The tariff structure should be streamlined with the view of avoiding contradictions where certain raw materials are subjected to higher custom duties than manufactured ones.

5) Price fixing of local industrial commodities should be entrusted to the Advisory Committee on Prices and Wages where wider representation prevails. A profit mark-up should be allowed to each industrial enterprise of around 20 per cent. A given price should be adjusted periodically according to changes in production costs.

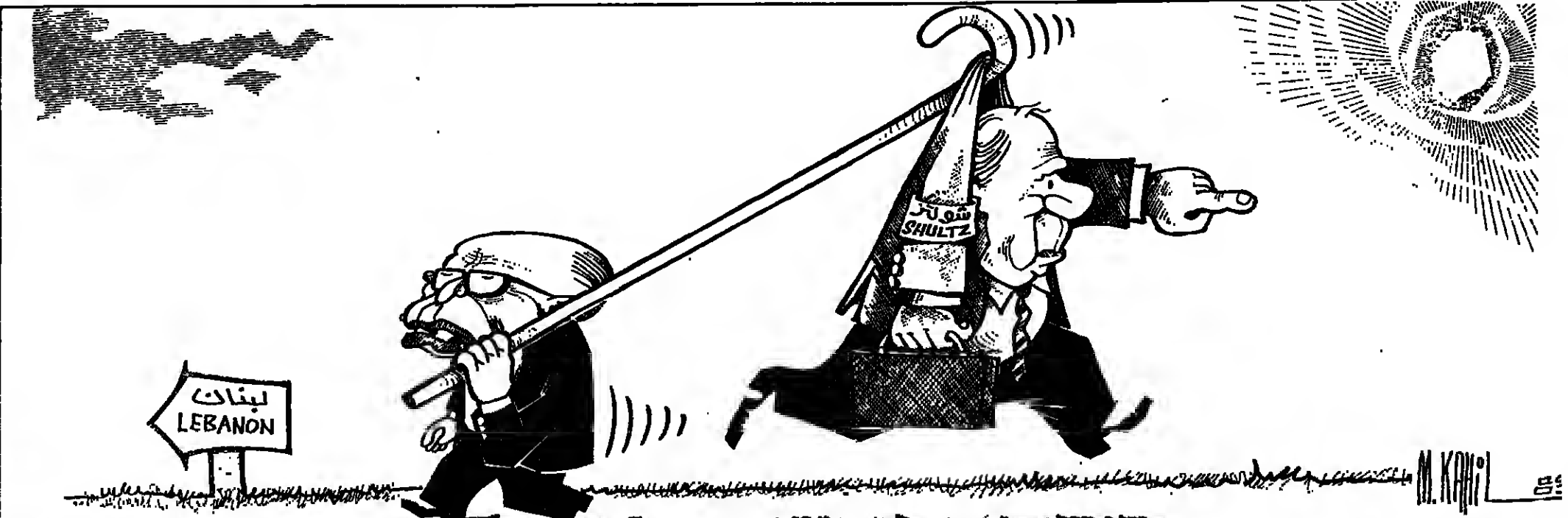
6) The public sector should give a margin of preference in its purchases to local products.

7) Guidelines for the government policy of investment encouragement should be announced, publicised and applied not on a case-by-case basis. The present distinction between two categories of projects, namely economic and approved, has to be abandoned. A more permissible policy is advisable in encouraging private investment in industry.

8) With the large infrastructural investments in the Sahab Industrial Estate, rent rates have to be reconsidered to become attractive enough to locate new industries. Otherwise, the problem of industrial location will remain a limiting factor on our industrialization.

Finally, the training of necessary manpower for our industries has to be closely coordinated with the Vocational Training Corporation which has been implementing successfully apprenticeship programmes with many industries.

The list of measures under a new industrial policy can be stretched further, but what is more relevant is to avoid direct subsidies to industries and to act on a well-coordinated set of measures.



Confidence in Shultz is still a question mark

By Michael Getler
Washington Post

Serious challenge

WASHINGTON — Nine months ago, when quiet George P. Shultz replaced combative Alexander M. Haig Jr. as secretary of state, it was widely predicted that there would be a new steadiness in foreign policy, that it would be made and carried out more calmly and effectively.

Today, however, U.S. foreign policy seems as stymied as ever, and there is a growing body of thought that Mr. Shultz may be too quiet, that he may not be forceful enough.

President Ronald Reagan's Middle East peace plan may be mortally wounded; Mr. Shultz began a tour of the area Sunday to try to revive it. The Salvadorean government still seems incapable of defeating that country's leftist guerrillas, and Congress seems no more inclined to increase U.S. assistance there. Arms control prospects seem grim and relations with the Soviet Union and China, if anything, seem to be worsening.

The knives have come out accordingly, not just for Mr. Shultz but also for the president's national security adviser, William P. Clark, who also took up his duties little more than a year ago.

Newsweek writes about "the vacuum at State" while Time opines that Mr. Clark's main role may be to reinforce the president's rightward tendencies. It quotes an unnamed White House aide who describes Mr. Clark as "content-free." The columnist Rowland Evans and Robert Novak say that failure of Mr. Reagan's once-promising peace plan has allowed Moscow back into the Middle East.

Whether such charges are valid or not, the administration once again faces a serious challenge to its competence in foreign affairs. It also faces the possibility that it could enter the 1984 campaign "without a single foreign policy success," a member of Congress noted.

"Even Jimmy Carter, who had a poor foreign policy image, had the Camp David accords, the Panama Canal treaty and the normalisation of relations with China," this member said. But others in and out of the administration defend Mr. Clark and especially Mr. Shultz, saying the first expectations when he was appointed were unrealistically high.

"Maybe people are waking up to the fact that nobody's magic," a senior White House official said. Administration defenders say that in places like the Middle East and Central America, the United States faces long-running problems that are extraordinarily complex if not impossible to solve. They say that they are working on the right issues and heading in the right direction.

But the problems also point out that the Reagan administration has less foreign policy expertise in its upper ranks than any recent U.S. government and that there remain difficulties between pragmatists and ideologues in the administration that make consensus difficult.

"The administration has gone flat, along with its policies," lamented a senior State Department official recently. "Nothing is moving. There is a sense of frustration."

"What we have," he said, "is essentially a minority gov-

ernment" of conservatives — mostly in the White House, Mr. Clark's National Security Council staff and the Pentagon — that is "more interested in position-taking than in problem-solving." He said that "the ideological position is what's important, not governing," and when that is combined with lack of experience, "it becomes so, so hard to get things done."

The administration's two most experienced people in foreign policy, Mr. Haig and Richard V. Allen, the former national security adviser, were forced out of office. Mr. Shultz as Mr. Haig's replacement, has some experience but he is primarily an economist. He brought in as his deputy Kenneth W. Dam, who is an able administrator and former university official but is also without much experience.

Mr. Reagan had virtually no foreign policy experience when he took office. Nor did Defense Secretary Caspar W. Weinberger or Mr. Clark, who replaced Mr. Allen.

Furthermore, Mr. Shultz and Mr. Clark have been almost invisible to the public and rarely on record before the press. This has produced another situation that contributes, fairly or not, to a public sense that the administration is without leadership in this area.

In the presidencies of Richard M. Nixon, Gerald R. Ford and Mr. Carter, the United States always had a secretary of state or national security adviser — Henry A. Kissinger, Zbigniew Brzezinski — who was a major figure on the national and international stage.

Mr. Shultz's preference for staying out of the news and his low-key style have had some advantages until now. His style has allowed him to work more eff-

ectively as a problem-solver in an ideological administration with out attracting the ire of the right wing in the White House or Congress.

He is widely credited, soon after taking office last summer, with having skillfully turned the White House away from its policy of applying sanctions to the European allies for their participation in the Soviet natural gas pipeline project. If relations with the allies are still strained, they are probably a lot less so than they would be were it not for Mr. Shultz, who is widely respected in Europe.

Mr. Shultz, as an economist, has also played an important role in reshaping and possibly softening somewhat the administration's other international economic policies.

He was influential in the development of Mr. Reagan's Middle East peace initiative last September and is said by aides to have had a key part as well in moving Mr. Reagan to offer an interim arms control proposal to the Soviet Union earlier this year.

But other officials say that Mr. Shultz did not have that much to do with the arms proposal and that, while increasing his involvement in arms control, he is still not a major factor and has left that issue largely in the hands of the White House.

Similarly, it seems that he has not played a major role thus far in Central American policy, with the more hard-line Mr. Clark and Jeanne J. Kirkpatrick, the United Nations representative, taking the lead. And in the Middle East, it also is not clear how much he has involved himself until now.

Mr. Shultz is a methodical man, an academic who consults the wise men in every field and likes to prepare himself fully even before de-

claring if he will become involved in an issue. It is this quality — admirable in one sense, but bureaucratically dangerous for a secretary who came into office with a world of troubles and the term almost half over — that seems to be at the root of Mr. Shultz's difficulties.

In addition, he seems much more interested in some subjects, such as economics, than others.

White House officials scoff at criticism and describe Mr. Shultz as "very strong and into everything." But Mr. Shultz is so low-key that he seldom divulges news even at a news conference; he has not yet created public impression that he has strong ideas as opposed to skills in mediating conflicts. Mr. Shultz is a conservative who appears to be more moderate than Mr. Clark or Mr. Weinberger. But no outsiders know.

Officials are impressed

Officials who have watched him closely but who are not tied to him remain impressed by the job he is doing under the circumstances. "You can have ideas when the world is willing to listen," said one official. "Henry Kissinger had a lot of ideas about Russia and China but none about Vietnam. So ideas are only good when you have a situation where they can be used. The world today is not the world of headlines and fundamental solutions. The Middle East will remain a problem after George Shultz's grandchildren are secretaries of state."

Policy in Africa is viewed as a plus thus far, largely because nobody knows much about it except the relevant senior State Department officials and it has been kept out of the limelight. In the White House, Mr. Clark is even

more invisible than Mr. Shultz is at State. But that is the way both Mr. Reagan and Mr. Clark want it, and the national security adviser has no official public role to play. What is at issue is Mr. Clark's behind-the-scenes role.

But here, too, his invisibility makes it hard to gather a balanced appraisal of this powerful official. He is closer to Mr. Reagan than any other foreign policy aide and the most unschooled occupant in national security affairs ever to hold that post.

Mr. Clark holds no press conferences and is surrounded by aides who seem totally loyal and tight-lipped.

He is faulted by critics for poor judgment in pushing a controversial nominee to head the arms control agency, Kenneth L. Adelman, and for taking several confrontational positions recently. But he appears also to have improved the machinery of the National Security Council staff, and officials say he is meticulous about putting all options in front of the president.

Mr. Clark is also given high marks for knowing how to bring the president around on certain issues.

But Mr. Clark is so close to the president, such an ideological soulmate and spends so much time with him that his inexperience and lack of historical depth still trouble many career officials. His influence is unquestioned. But as Time asked: "Influence for what?"

There is also this fact, a member of Congress said: The administration has faced no truly dangerous crisis in foreign affairs. That is when the depth of foreign policy management would be tested. "So far," he said, "we've been lucky."

Britain's Alliance preparing a showdown during elections

By Barry May
Reuters

LONDON — Britain's Liberal and Social Democratic Parties, allies in a centrist opposition partnership, have reached some tough decisions now that a general election looks likely this year.

For one thing, they have arrived at the point where the tricky question of who should be leader of the alliance can no longer be avoided.

Under a pact not yet formally endorsed by Liberal and Social Democratic members of Parliament, David Steel, the Liberals' boyish-looking leader, would head the alliance campaign in the coming election.

But Roy Jenkins, a founder of the Social Democrats and one of

the most experienced men in British politics, would be presented to voters as the prospective alliance prime minister.

Steel, a Scot first elected to Parliament 19 years ago at the age of 20, may have got the better part of the bargain.

On the evidence of recent public opinion polls, the chances of the alliance being elected to govern Britain for the next five years seem slim.

Jenkins, now 62, was a senior cabinet minister in Labour governments in the 1960s and 1970s, deputy Labour Party leader, and president of the European Community's executive commission before helping to found the Social Democratic party two years ago.

But since returning from Brussels to relaunch his political career he has failed to dominate the political stage.

It seems unlikely that Jenkins' hopes of capping his career with a period at the prime minister's 10 Downing Street residence will be realised this year.

Steel is 45 but has never held public office, high or low, and thus there is no record by which to predict how he would bear up under the pressures of power.

Yet he is a popular leader and is preferred to Jenkins by most respondents to political questionnaires.

The understanding he has with Jenkins provides for a dual leadership in the event of the alliance being elected to power.

"The government would continue to be run by two people but

one of the two has to have the final authority," Steel said in a television interview.

But on present showing, the situation will not arise.

Much more likely, political analysts believe, is that the alliance could hold the balance of power if either of the two major parties fails to secure an absolute majority in Parliament.

Steel has made plain that there would be some hard bargaining if alliance support were needed to sustain a minority government.

Cooperation with another conservative administration headed by present Prime Minister Margaret Thatcher is not ruled out.

Equally, the alliance would work to keep a Labour government in office.

But in both cases, reform of Britain's winner-take-all electoral system and its replacement by a system of proportional representation would be the first requirement insisted on by the Liberals and Social Democrats.

In addition, a new conservative government would have to reverse its policy of what Steel has called "using unemployment as a major social and economic weapon."

A Labour government would have to abandon the party's declared policy of withdrawal from the European Community.

"We could not possibly support a Labour government in some of its more ridiculous proposals," Steel says.

Recognising that the next election may not produce a clear-cut

result, figures in the two major parties have already let it be known informally that they might want to do a deal with either the Liberals or the Social Democrats.

But Steel says there is no question of splitting the two partners. "We're going to fight as an alliance and we will have to be counted together in the next Parliament," he says.

Steel believes that, with one poll showing 45 per cent of the electorate undecided how to vote, the election is wide open and the alliance has a chance of forming the government.

He does not think any party will win an outright majority in Parliament, although the alliance could emerge as the largest single grouping.

لبنان مع الشعب

La year's tragedy turned to this year's crisis, says King

The following is an unofficial text of an interview His Majesty King Hussein granted to the Beirut daily *Al Nahar* Saturday.

Last year there were tragedies which were perhaps the most painful in our experience. Whenever we completed a certain phase we imagined that we had bypassed the peak of our problems and difficulties, only to find ourselves facing more serious phases. The Israeli aggression against Lebanon and the advance of the Israeli forces as far as Beirut were very painful events.

However, we had expected all this. I had pointed out the Israeli threats, the importance of restoring freedom and independence to Lebanon, and the need to rob Israel of the opportunity (to invade Lebanon). I also pointed out Lebanon's special position. Despite all this, what we feared happened.

The Arab moves were at the level of the Fez summit. There was an Arab consensus that the area has to realise a just, permanent peace. An Arab position crystallised, based on the U.N. Security Council resolutions and on circumstances. We heard in the major world capitals, both in the West and in the East, that Israel had come to stay.

However, there is support, sympathy, and backing for Arab rights, in terms of the Arab territories which were occupied in June 1967 and of the implementation of U.N. Security Council resolution 242, which stipulated that occupation of territories by force is impermissible.

I held intensive talks with everybody in the Arab world and outside it on the aggression against Lebanon. I contacted the U.S. leadership, stressing the fact that Lebanon should regain its stability, freedom and independence, and exercise sovereignty over its territory, thus ending the darkness in which Lebanon has been living.

At the same time, we had to put emphasis on the central Palestinian cause. Israel should not be allowed to repeat its past behaviour, create a new reality, leave the world to face this new reality, and forget the original problem. We hoped for an international conference to tackle the problem.

When I felt that the U.S. administration was about to present its initiative, I contacted the U.S. president and asked him the following question: Are our friends in the United States determined now to complete this journey to the end? If this was impossible for one reason or another, it was better to consider convening an international conference.

On 1 September, President Reagan declared his initiative to the U.S. people and the world. It was a result of his interest in the situation and of his contacts and consultations with the two U.S. parties, and the U.S. leaders.

In Fez, we came up with the Arab peace plan. In fact, since the beginning of the Lebanese events, we had been in contact with our brothers in the PLO. We had always desired to establish the Palestinian people's right to a free opinion and to exercise their rights without trusteeship. We began discussing the situation out of our interest in this cause, with which

we, the Hashemites, have a historical association.

On another level, we Palestinians and Jordanians are tied to the same fate. We are one family facing danger. The problem is that of the Palestinians' right to their soil and occupied land. Today, what is left of Palestine is threatened. As for the plans of the Israeli government and Zionism, they openly stipulate that the Palestinians have an opportunity to establish their state in another territory. It seems as though the issue has changed from that of Palestinian rights to that of a search for an alternative homeland.

When the Sabra and Shatila events and tragedies took place, it was my opinion that both the direct and moral responsibility fell on official Israeli circles, which had been responsible for similar events. The PLO and its leadership left (Beirut) because they agreed to leave on the basis of U.S. guarantees, as a result of Israeli pledges.

Israel rejected the U.S. initiative of 9 September through the Israeli prime minister. The practical reaction to this initiative was the increase in building settlements. If the expansion of settlements continues for even a short period of time, the present reality on the ground will change forever. Israel has also carried out other forms of injustice. Our brothers in the occupied homeland and the holy places have suffered greatly.

When we came out of Fez, we felt that we had the answer to a question which many people ask about the Arab position. The question was about the mechanism for our action. We believed that we had no problems with any major power in the world.

In 1956, the Zionist movement and Israel concentrated their work on Europe. During the tripartite (Suez) aggression, the United States and the USSR stood at our side, we felt the results of these stands on the ground. The United States stood against its ally.

It is clear that, since then, Israel has been concentrating its work on the United States. We in the Arab world may not have been presenting our cause properly over the many years that have passed.

This is the first time that we have seen any U.S. move in reaction to the tragic circumstances which have been felt even by ordinary people all over the world, including the United States. I said that it was a bold step. I may say that it is the most daring step that any U.S. administration has ever taken. It contains negative aspects in terms of ambiguity. It touches on positive aspects. We must exercise the policy of give and take and see what is presented to us.

We have looked into all the alternatives. Is an international conference within our capability? It is out of our power because it concerns the two superpowers and their acceptance or rejection of it. Does the military alternative exist at present, except to defend ourselves, something which any people would do when faced by threats? In any case and in all circumstances, I find that this alternative does not exist.

The situation is still the same in Lebanon; the situation in the Arab world is known. Moreover, a

battle is being imposed on the Arab nation and is directed against Iraq. Even the Arab material potential appears shaky in one form or another, to the extent that many share the opinion that some of our brothers are no longer maintaining their positions. As a result of all this, many of our major and serious plans have been disrupted, take for example the question of the popular army in Jordan and the equipment of the armed forces. In our assessment, in one and a half or two years, we will have the chance to assume a better position in terms of self-defence.

These are the acts. But what is more important that the land is almost devoured. Our kinsfolk and brothers in the occupied territories have suffered much. Consequently, we had to deal with these facts in one way or another and to absorb ourselves in the Arab homeland, so that no one would hold us responsible for obstructing the achievement of a just, lasting peace.

We and the Palestinians are kinsfolk and brothers. The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people in accordance with the Arab Summit resolutions, especially those of 1974. We maintain our stand regarding this topic; hence, the discussions on Jordanian-Palestinian relations. Can we give up this issue and let other forces interfere in this issue? Or should we, under such circumstances, endeavour to crystallise a future formula that equally satisfies the ambitions of every Jordanian and Palestinian in terms of preserving their identity and benefiting from past experience? This could serve as an ideal formula or the road to achieving Arab unity.

This matter concerns the Jordanians and Palestinians before any other side. Camp David has granted Israel the right to interfere in the fate of the land and those living on it. Resolution 242, for example, has been implemented only in terms of withdrawal from Egyptian land, but as to the other part, the picture is different.

However, our stand is clear and frank: all the occupied territories should be returned to their owners, as these territories have their own population and sovereignty. We believed that, in crystallising this formula, we would achieve much and narrow the gap between the Arab peace plan and what is being projected in the international arena.

We discussed the question of the political move. We drew our own conclusions as to the visits of the Arab seven-member committee and the visit to Washington by King Hassan II. I visited the United States and promised to convey the outcome of my talks to my brothers in the PLO and in the Arab world. I must stress here that Jordan does not act on behalf of any side. The PLO is the sole legitimate representative of the Palestinian people. This is our stand, which will not change or alter.

If they think that we can act, the move must be initiated with Palestinian participation and with Arab support. This is how we have moved in past months. We are all aware of what is taking place in the occupied territories and what is

threatening them and our kinsfolk. Everyday there is a new, painful, and extremely serious reality.

We met with the PLO leadership and with Mr. Yasser Arafat. These meetings have continued. We believed that if we must change our methods, we must visit our Arab brothers, be it the Palestinian side alone or the Jordanian side alone, to seek their opinion about the ideal method. There is external influence, the factor of remoteness from or closeness to the issue, and the factor of direct cognisance or lack of it. This is what the Jordanian-Palestinian accord is based on. I believed that the majority of the Arab world would say: we bless whatever you agree upon.

We reached the phase of agreement. They (the PLO) believed that they must make some moves with a view to acquainting some of their members with what was agreed upon. It appears that there were some obstacles. When the picture was made clear to me, I could proceed no further. I contacted the U.S.-side and informed them of the situation. In my opinion, the United States bears the responsibility to a certain extent, indirectly, for this.

For example, I attempted the impossible, to initiate a direct dialogue between the United States and the PLO, but the U.S. stand remained unchanged. The PLO was not to be a partner to the negotiations in the first phase. This was an obstacle.

On the other hand, there is the problem of U.S. credibility. I repeatedly drew their attention to this.

For example, the Israeli forces should have withdrawn from Lebanon before the end of last year, but Israel's insistence on staying did not help. The same can also be said about Israel's rejection of the U.S. initiative, its position on settlement activity, and its many practices against our brothers under occupation.

One of the obstacles also is that the Soviets are not part of this movement. This is out of my control, at any rate. There fore, they felt that they should adopt a negative stand. I am one of those who believe in the inevitability of U.S.-USSR agreement, but not before it is too late for us, God willing.

At any rate, this is the situation. We were forced to issue a statement giving an idea of what took place. We abide with what is contained in the statement in the light of the present circumstances, with the emphasis that the question is one of a people who have the right to their own national soil, of a people who deserve from us and from the whole world, especially the United States, every concern and support so they can regain their rights.

After this long review, the King was asked about his recent letters to several Arab kings and presidents, about the Moroccan envoy's visit to Amman, and about attempts to resume the Jordanian-Palestinian talks so as to achieve some results. The King said: The contacts exist. All we said was that, if matters continued in this way, we would have to review our situation in view of the existence of real dangers.

Q: It seems that the crisis has reached its climax for all sides; the Jordanians, Palestinians, Americans, and Lebanese. Do you consider the situation urgent for Jordan, especially in light of the reports about the possible resumption of the Jordanian-Palestinian talks?

A: Our position is clear. We reached a point at which an agreement was signed. That agreement was not enforced by us, but by circumstances and Palestinian interests. Then it was found that it was impossible for our brothers in the PLO to reach this agreement.

Q: As a result of what?

A: I cannot tell you the reasons which they gave.

Q: Did some Arab states, such as Syria, have a role in this?

A: Perhaps. I cannot answer, but they can.

Q: Is Jordan not in a hurry?

A: Jordan is going through indescribable suffering because of the land and our kinsfolk on it. Although I consider myself concerned with the cause, the owners of the cause exist.

Q: What about contacts with King Hassan?

A: Contacts with King Hassan continue. He is talking with our Palestinian brothers, but our position is clear.

Q: Will there be a summit or a return to talks with the Palestinians?

A: I believe that a summit without full preparation — and I may even say without agreement among the parties directly concerned — may not lead any positive results. This is perhaps also the opinion of some of our brothers in the Arab homeland. Contacts and consultations are going on, of course, and everyone has his responsibilities in one way or another.

Q: If things do not go well in Lebanon, could the United States concentrate its efforts on a Jordanian-Palestinian agreement based on Resolution 242?

A: Jordan will join no negotiation process unless it is on the basis of Palestinian participation and Arab backing. This position is clear.

Q: Palestinian participation meaning the PLO?

A: Naturally, meaning the existence of some agreement with the PLO, which is the sole representative here, regardless of whom it assigns as its delegate.

Q: It was said recently that the USSR was behind the failure of the Jordanian-Palestinian agreement and, consequently, behind the rigid U.S. stand toward the Arab states when it called on them to withhold recognition of the PLO.

A: I do not believe this was so.

Q: It is no longer a secret that all those who deal with the subject of the Palestinians leave loopholes in their positions which soon appear as basic problems. The latest was the U.S. statement that the PLO must be dispensed with. It is as if it is so easy to adopt such a position overnight and that all Secretary Shultz has to do is carry it out. Are there any secret Arab positions encouraging the United States to reject the PLO and asking others to reject it?

A: I am not aware of anything of this kind. The question concerns

the PLO and the Palestinians.

Q: President Jimmy Carter once said that none of the Arab leaders had asked him for an independent Palestinian state.

A: This is inaccurate. We are trying hard to get all the countries of the world to recognise Palestinian rights on Palestinian national soil. The PLO has been recognised and given the responsibility.

Q: Has the United States given guarantees to Your Majesty concerning the participation of Israel in talks on the future of the West Bank and Gaza? If so, on what basis? Does the United States only support you, or does it support you and the West Bank and Gaza notables?

A: The formula which has been presented is implementation of Resolution 242, which forbids the acquisition of land by force. It was said that Resolution 242 covers the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan.

Q: What if Secretary Shultz come and says: Let us bypass the PLO and let Jordan join the negotiations?

A: We will not bypass the PLO.

Q: How does the United States currently view the role of Egypt and Jordan in the so-called autonomy negotiations? What role would be left to Egypt concerning the Palestinians if Jordan were given this role?

A: I believe Egypt has reached the point where it believes that it cannot go any further with this process. It is a party to any collective action to solve the question and its position is no different from ours.

Q: Do you expect a return to entrusting the role to Egypt if you insist on your stands? Have you received any assurances from President Mubarak?

A: I believe that it is difficult for Egypt to continue with this process after what it has gone through.

Q: On what basis will you agree to resume the talks with the PLO? Has Jordan taken any measures to protect its national security in the light of the government statement?

A: Our contacts with the PLO have not been severed. There are working committees which continue to function.

Q: If the United States announced that it was ready to save Lebanon, but Lebanon was unable to cooperate due to Arab pressure: if the United States showed similar readiness to Jordan and the Palestinians, but the Palestinians were not free to act independently and if the United States then said: We are washing our hands of this friend, and refrained from further action, what would happen?

A: That would be the greatest catastrophe.

Q: Would Your Majesty then consider visiting President Reagan?

A: My present programme does not include a visit to the United States. Our present emphasis is on the United States and the view that Lebanon is an American issue. We expect the United States to exert real, effective efforts to end the occupation of Lebanon, which we want to see free and independent, exercising sovereignty over its territory.

Q: What do Jordan and Lebanon have in common?

A: There are many things in com-

mon. We support Lebanon's sovereignty and independence and call for the removal of all foreign presence from Lebanese territory.

Q: If the armed Palestinians withdraw from Lebanese territory, which country, in your opinion, would accept them?

A: If by this question you want to know if Jordan would receive these brothers, our position, in light of the present circumstances, is clear. We welcome any brother.

Q: The Jordanian who holds Jordanian citizenship is free to return to his country. This is permissible under the law. As for the others, there are two considerations, the first consideration being security which, in fact, means Palestinian and Jordanian security. The second consideration is national unity which, if affected, would render us an easy target for our enemies, who are lying in wait for us. Any action on this subject is governed by these two considerations.

Q: What will Jordan do to protect its security?

A: We will reconsider some measures. We support our people in the occupied territories with all our strength. We will continue to do so with the aim of keeping them on their land. However, naturally we are dealing with the hostile scheme alertly, so that it may not be implemented at the expense of the Palestinians and their presence on their soil. Therefore, we have to take measures.

Q: Can you tell us something about these measures?

A: For example, one of the most important issues we are discussing today is: will we let Israel have the chance to force people to emigrate or not?

Q: It is said that the point of difference between Jordan and the PLO is the issue of complete sovereignty. The PLO insists on complete sovereignty. Those who support the authorisation of Jordan (to speak on behalf of the Palestinians) support a less-than-complete sovereignty.

A: There is no difference. There exists something which might enable us to reach something. Full sovereignty means an independent state. If the PLO can achieve this, let it, with God's blessing. However, we do not have this. Therefore, we proposed a future relationship, which we should begin now.

Q: What if no withdrawal from Lebanon results at the end of the Shultz trip?

A: Undoubtedly, this will negatively affect U.S. credibility even further. If the United States is unable to force Israel to withdraw from Lebanon — and Israel has not yet claimed that some Lebanese areas belong to it — how can the United States affect Israel on the issues of the West Bank, Gaza and the Golan?

Q: So the test for U.S. credibility is Lebanon?

A: I believe so.

Q: What about Palestinian and Syrian credibility?

A: I attended the Fez summit. From what I personally heard, the Syrian brothers support a synchronised withdrawal from Lebanon. If this has changed recently, I am not aware of it.

Q: Has the USSR informed Jordan that it will face trouble if it enters negotiations?

A: The dialogue between us and our Soviet friends has been going on for a long time with extreme frankness. As a result, Jordan enjoys a great amount of credibility in the Soviet Union, much more than others might think. Naturally, the USSR has a negative stand on the U.S. plan and moves. The USSR perhaps has the right to take such a stand. I am certain of the inevitable U.S.-USSR agreement at a certain stage. What is important is our present state, which forces us to move in a certain manner.

Q: What is the Arab position toward the Reagan initiative?

A: As far as I know, the majority of the Arabs support all moves to increase Jordanian-Palestinian cooperation and cohesion. They support all decisions which the Palestinian side takes in coordination with Jordan.

Q: What about Jordanian-Syrian relations?

A: There is no change in these relations. This is far from our wish. There are many causes for the deterioration in these relations. The pain I feel is proportional to the size of the hopes which we pinned on these relations once upon a time. Issues took a different direction. The differences are not personal but revolve around certain issues. Before the recent operation in Lebanon, at the beginning of the Syrian intervention, we believed that it was possible to prepare the atmosphere for intra-Lebanese and Palestinian-Lebanese dialogues.

Q: There are other differences regarding our stand with Iraq, a stand commensurate with Jordan's membership in the Arab League and its status as one of those who ratified the Arab defence pact agreement. We have other opinions; we do not agree with them on their political stands in general. They rely on absolute negativism in all their stands. We feel that we should practice the give-and-take policy. Issues are not subject to moods. We had problems in the past and some of them are being solved. God willing. We hope that the Lebanese situation will help achieve this end.

Q: If the Israeli army withdraws from the Awar river, if the Syrians consider this insufficient and refuse to 'withdraw, and if President Gemayel asks the Arab states to pressure Syria to withdraw, will he find Arab support?

A: We support withdrawal from all the Lebanese territory. Another thing is that we are against the Israeli and Zionist attempt, and the attempts by certain quarters in the region, to internationalise the conflict, because this is a threat to our character, our freedom, our ties to our past, and the future of our generations. To allow the Americans and the Russians to fight on our land is one of Israel's aims.

Q: After 20 years, issues have turned and reached Your Majesty. Do you feel that your responsibility is too great, that there were Arab mistakes?

A: History will judge us. As for the responsibilities, they have not changed.

TV & RADIO

JORDAN TELEVISION

MAIN CHANNEL

17:30 Koran
17:35 Cartoons
18:30 Local Programme
19:00 Coral Island
19:30 Local Programme
20:00 Local Programme
20:30 News in Arabic
21:30 Wrestling
22:30 Society and Thought
23:10 News in Arabic

FOREIGN CHANNEL

18:00 French Programme
19:30 News in Hebrew
20:30 Comedy
21:10 Documentary
22:00 News in English
23:15 Simon and Simon

RADIO JORDAN

855 KHz, AM & 99 MHz, FM & party on 95.60 KHz, SW

07:00 Morning Show
07:30 News Bulletin
08:00 News Summary
08:30 Morning Show
09:00 News Summary
09:30 Pop Session
10:00 News Summary
10:30 Pop Session
11:00 News Bulletin
11:30 News Bulletin
12:00 News Bulletin
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BBC WORLD SERVICE

639, 720, 1413 KHz

06:00 Newswatch 06:30 Wavaguide 06:40 Book Choice 06:45 Financial News 06:55 Reflections 07:00 World News 07:10 24 Hours News 07:20 The Champion 07:30 The World Today 07:40 News Summary 07:50 Divisions 08:00 World News 08:20 24 Hours News Summary 08:30 The Brotherhood of Brass 08:45 Report on Religion 10:00 Reflections 10:15 The Golden Age of Opera 10:30 Two Cheers for April 11:00 World News 11:10 British Press Review 11:15 The World Today 11:30 Financial News 11:40 Look Ahead 11:45 The Instruments of Jazz 12:00 Men and a Girl 12:15 Musical Rites 12:30 Counterpoint 13:00 World News 13:10 News Summary 13:20 The World Today 13:30 Financial News 13:40 Look Ahead 13:45 The Instruments of Jazz 14:00 Men and a Girl 14:15 Musical Rites 14:30 Counterpoint 15:00 World News 15:10 News Summary 15:20 The World Today 15:30 Financial News 15:40 Look Ahead 15:45 The Instruments of Jazz 16:00 Men and a Girl 16:15 Musical Rites 16:30 Counterpoint 17:00 World News 17:10 News Summary 17:20 The World 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SPORTS

China scoops both table tennis team events

TOKYO (R) — China retained the men's and women's team titles at the 37th World Table Tennis Championships here Tuesday with a display of power and skill which had opponents reeling.

In the men's team final the Chinese crushed Sweden 5-1 while their women whitewashed hosts Japan 3-0.

European Champion Michael Appelgren was Sweden's only winner, beating Xie Saikou, who is seeded one place above him at number three in the singles event, 21-18, 9-21, 21-14.

Sweden's 17-year-old wonder boy Jan-Ove Waldner also put up a creditable performance against Cai Zhenhua, number two seed, forcing nine deuces before losing 30-28, 21-16.

Waldner, who could pose a greater threat to the Chinese in the next championships in 1985, was also beaten 21-17, 21-14 by Jiang Jialiang, the number five seed.

The capacity crowd of 12,000

packed inside the Olympic pool stadium gave the Japanese women's team tremendous encouragement.

The capacity crowd of 12,000 packed inside the Olympic pool stadium gave the Japanese women's team tremendous encouragement at the start but the Chinese brought the audience to a hush by winning all three matches with effortless ease.

They won both team events without losing a tie and their form to date suggests they will now go on to make a clean sweep of all seven titles—a feat they accomplished in Yugoslavia two years ago.

Chinese manager Li Fureng said he had rested 27-year-old World Champion Guo Yuehua, who is retiring at the end of these championships, from the men's final because he wanted to give him a rest and to give more chance to the younger players.

Denmark's Frost defeats Chinese badminton rival

COPENHAGEN (R) — Top-seeded Morten Frost of Denmark opened his bid for the men's title at the World Badminton Championships in convincing fashion here Monday night.

The 25-year-old Dane, who lost his All-England title to Luan Jin of China in London in March, was far too good for unseeded Chinese Yang Kesen, winning 15-1, 15-10.

It was a match which Frost said he had been worried about because he knew nothing about his opponent.

"I didn't know what to expect. I didn't know if it would be a good match for me at all, but as it turned out it was. I was able to control the play, particularly in the first game."

Icuk Sugiarto of Indonesia, one of the four joint fifth seeds in the men's event, cleared his first hurdle by beating Han Kuk Sung of South Korea 15-11, 15-1.

Frost's second round opponent will be Commonwealth Champion Syed Modi of India. He beat Dutchman Guus Van der Vlugt 15-8, 15-9.

Earlier Monday the only two women's seeds in action, Lene Koppen of Denmark and Sally Podger of England, both recorded comfortable victories.

Luan Jin, Frost's most dangerous rival here and his likely semifinal opponent, quickly proved his pedigree by brushing Dutchman Rob Ridder 15-4, 15-2 Monday night.

Luan beat Frost in three games to win the All-England crown, but the feeling here is that if they meet again the conditions would favour the Dane.

The next opponent for the Chinese star is Hiroyuki Hasegawa of Japan, who defeated West German Uwe Scherpen 15-9, 15-4.

Willis to lead England in World Cricket Cup

LONDON (R) — England's cricket selectors Tuesday named Bob Willis as captain for the World Cup starting next month.

Willis has led England for the last 12 months but his future as skipper was in doubt after the team's losing performance in Australia recently.

But chairman of selectors Peter May said Tuesday: "He is the best man for the captaincy. We always think these things the whole way through."

Fast bowler Willis, 34 later this month, seemed to have only one serious rival, tour vice-captain David Gower, but there is clearly a desire not to rush him into the leadership before he is ready.

May emphasised the appointment was for the one-day World Cup from June 9-25 only and not the four-test series against New Zealand which follows.

"Bob is pleased that we have asked him to lead the side again," May added. "We have just got to start playing up to our full potential. We certainly did not do that in the winter."

England lost the Ashes series against Australia 2-1, failed to qualify for the finals of the one-day triangular competition and lost all three over-limit internationals on the last leg of the tour in New Zealand.

Willis said Tuesday: "I think we play limited overs better in this country than we do abroad."

McEnroe stakes claim for top rankings with WCT triumph

DALLAS (R) — Firebrand John McEnroe has joined Ivan Lendl and Jimmy Connors in the battle for the world's number one spot by winning an unprecedented third World Championship Tennis finals tournament.

Just who is the world's best player has remained nuclear over the past two years since Swede Bjorn Borg's self-imposed exile from the game and subsequent retirement.

Connors, the oldest of the three at 30, has impressive credentials as current Wimbledon and U.S. Open champion. Lendl, a 23-year-old Czechoslovak, can point to his long list of tournament victories and the computer rankings that rate him the number one player.

And then there is McEnroe. After three superlative years in which he won three successive U.S. Open titles and halted Borg's string of five consecutive Wimbledon crowns, he went into a decline in 1982.

Slowed down by a sprained ankle, he failed in his defence of his Wimbledon and U.S. titles and went eight months without winning a match.

This year his ankle healed but he developed tendinitis in his left shoulder—and McEnroe is a left-handed player. Until last week he had played only an abbreviated schedule which had brought him just one victory. But that win was significant.

In the final of the U.S. Professional Indoor Championship last February he ended a sequence of seven successive defeats by Lendl, and proved Monday that win was no fluke by overcoming the same player for a record third WCT finals title.

The tussled-haired New Yorker earned the championship, and consideration as the world's num-

ber one, by dominating the decisive tie-breaker in the 4½ hour marathon.

The 6-2, 4-6, 6-3, 6-7, 7-6 triumph brought out the best and worst in McEnroe. Using a graphite racket in place of a wooden one for the first time in his career, he served impressively for 20 aces against four for Lendl, and came to the net at every opportunity.

He fought tenaciously for every point, at one time ending up sprawling among the court-side television cameras and on another occasion skidding along the floor beyond the baseline.

The match finished appropriately with McEnroe chasing a seemingly unreachable acutely angled cross court shot that he somehow managed to flick back for a winner between the post and net.

The point was also appropriate in another way, providing a controversial finish to a match marked by disputed calls and incessant petulant outbursts by McEnroe.

Lendl argued that the point should have been awarded to him, as the ball was supposed to go around or over the post and the net, but he was over-ruled by British umpire Mark Cox.

The umpire had turned a blind eye to McEnroe's tantrums throughout the match.

In addition to haranguing officials over almost every close call that went against him, the truculent New Yorker yelled obscenities, hit balls into the crowd and three times buried his racket away in anger, once the full length of the court.

Lendl admitted afterwards that he was upset by McEnroe's behaviour and he believed it influenced officials in their decisions. "They get intimidated by him complaining after every call," he



John McEnroe

said. But Lendl conceded that McEnroe deserved to win the final tie-breaker.

The rivalry for the top ranking now continues to the French Open Championship, Wimbledon and the U.S.-Open—three events that Lendl has yet to win.

"I would expect Ivan to have the upper hand on clay, and I'd guess McEnroe would be favoured on grass," said Lendl's friend and adviser, Wojtek Fibak.

The big question mark over McEnroe is whether he can keep in shape. "He always seems to be

playing with an injury," said his semifinal victim, Vitas Gerulaitis.

In his favour are his new graphite racket, which McEnroe says has added power to his volleying, and his constant outbursts which Lendl and others say upsets their concentration.

Perhaps the biggest impendable is whether officials will decide to get tough and take whatever action is necessary to curb McEnroe's tantrums. Their efforts in this direction have met with little or no success so far.

Mr Table Tennis runs another tournament

TOKYO (R) — They call him "Mr Table Tennis" and with good reason.

Roy Evans has been a major figure in the sport for almost four decades.

As president of the International Table Tennis Federation (ITTF) since 1967 he has worked hard to put the sport on a high world footing, and is now seeing the fruits of his endeavors.

The major breakthrough came last year at Baden Baden in West Germany when the International Olympic Committee (IOC) accepted table tennis as an Olympic sport.

"It was the end of years of meetings letter-writing and visits round the world. We were finally in," Evans said in an interview with Reuters.

Evans, a Welshman from Cardiff, is in Tokyo to supervise another World Championship, taking time off from the stadium to attend council meetings of the ITTF.

A controversial issue coming before an ITTF session on May 7 is whether it should accept an application by Taiwan for membership.

The vote will be by a simple majority among the 87 countries at the conference.

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Seeds untroubled in Italian Open

PERUGIA, Italy (R) — All five seeds in action on the second day of the Italian Open Tennis Championship scored resounding wins here Tuesday.

Fourth seeded Bonnie Gadusek of the U.S. and seventh seeded Jo Durie of Britain, making their first appearances in the tournament, lost only seven games between them against Americans Barbara Bramblett and Jenny Klitch respectively as they qualified for the last 16.

Gadusek, a 19-year-old right-hander from Largo, Florida, brushed aside Bramblett in under an hour, 6-2, 6-1, mixing a steady baseline game with some fierce volleying, and then set her sights firmly on the \$27,000 first prize.

"The match was good for me because it helped me get my timing right. Now I feel I have a great chance of winning here because with Chris Evert-Lloyd out the draw is way open," she said afterwards.

She will meet 10th-seeded

Mima Jausovec of Yugoslavia, who beat Australia's Ann Minter 6-1, 6-4, in the third round Wednesday.

British number one Durie was in equally stunning form as she overwhelmed Klitch for the loss of just four games, 6-2, 6-2.

The 22-year-old Durie started badly losing the opening two games of the match but then she took command with a performance she later described as "one of my best on clay."

Durie now faces 13th seed Iva

Madriga of Argentina who disposed of Britain's Virginia Wade 6-3, 7-5.

Another Briton, Sue Barker, was also beaten, going down to American Paula Smith 2-6, 6-2, 7-6 in the first round.

Smith, 26, played with a borrowed racket after losing her own in an airline mix-up on the way from New York.

Another Czech, Iva Budarova seeded 14, was the other seed through. She defeated Italian favourite Sabina Simmons 6-1, 6-3 in a first round match.

Canada still optimistic on World Cup finals bid

OTTAWA (R) — Canadian Sports Minister Ray Perrault said Tuesday he was still hopeful that Canada would stage the 1986 World Soccer Cup finals.

After meeting representatives of the International Football Federation (FIFA), Perrault said: "We've been given some assurance that no decision on the venue has been taken yet."

Perrault replied to FIFA statements that the Canadian grounds were too far apart by saying

that at the last championships in Spain teams spent up to 16 hours travelling by bus from site to site.

"We have a strong case. There isn't another country better equipped to host the World Cup," he added.

Despite Perrault's optimism, Mexico remain firm favourites to host the month-long tournament.

FIFA, the sport's governing body, will end all speculation by deciding the 1986 site at an executive committee meeting in Stockholm on May 20.

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11. Benford 5/3½ mixer
12. Volvo tipper
13. Thomson concrete pump
14. Toyota Land cruiser
15. 250 A welding sets
16. Bar cutter
17. Bar bender
18. Bar cutter/bender
19. Also various items of kwik stage and scaffolding.

For details please call Mr. Adamedis tel. 661987, 668680

CHANGE OF TELEPHONE NUMBERS BETWEEN 4TH AND 5TH CIRCLES OF JABAL AMMAN

The Telecommunication Corporation announces to its telephone subscribers in the area falling on both sides of the main street linking the Fourth and the Fifth Circles of Jabal Amman, that they will be transferred to the new electronic Abdal exchange. This transfer will be carried out between 19th and 26th May, 1983. The present number starting with four will be changed to start with 67 with very little exceptions the telephone numbers 41999 and 663163 could be dialled for information although all affected customers will be notified in advance.

For Example

Existing Number	New Number
41415	671415
42697	672697
43223	673223
44996	674996

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Yamani, British energy secretary hold talks

RIYADH (R) — Saudi Arabian Oil Minister Ahmad Zaki Yamani held talks here Tuesday with British Energy Secretary Nigel Lawson, who is on the second leg of a Gulf tour.

British and Saudi officials refused comment but independent diplomats expected Sheikh Yamani to renew requests that Britain — now a key oil producer — should help the Organisation of Petroleum Exporting Countries (OPEC) to stop oil prices tumbling in the surplus-laden market.

Mr. Lawson has denied Britain will join OPEC although its production of North Sea oil at around two million barrels daily exceeds

that of several of the 13 OPEC members.

The British have declined to order cuts in the output of their oil which competes directly with that of one of the OPEC members, Nigeria, which is most in need of cash and hardest hit by the slump in world oil demand.

Mr. Yamani, publicly warned Britain two months ago that if it bowed to pressure by some buyers and undercut the Nigerian price it would unleash a price war.

The British say they will price their oil strictly in line with market forces.

After Mr. Yamani's warning, however, they trimmed prices by only 50 cents a barrel — within a

margin earlier deemed tolerable by the Saudi minister and less than some oil companies favoured.

Mr. Lawson was apparently receiving red carpet treatment with Mr. Yamani in personal charge of his itinerary in Saudi Arabia.

The tour coincides with calls from OPEC leaders for closer ties with such non-OPEC sellers as Britain, Mexico and the Soviet Union to defend the OPEC benchmark price of \$29 for a barrel of Saudi light crude.

Kuwait Monday asked Britain not to increase production, and the Kuwaiti daily newspaper Al Rai Al Aam Tuesday reported that Mr. Lawson said it did not exceed 2.1 million barrels daily.

U.S., EEC to resume talks on farm problems

BRUSSELS (R) — U.S. and European Economic Community negotiators make a new attempt Tuesday to settle their differences over farm exports.

U.S. Deputy Farm Secretary Richard Lyng and the community director-general for agriculture, Mr. Claude Villain, will concentrate on ways of dividing up shrinking world trade in cereals, poultry and dairy products without causing a price collapse, diplomats said.

They said both sides would try to keep the talks as amicable as possible because an agricultural trade war would hit taxpayers on both sides of the Atlantic.

Authorities in Washington and

Brussels are also keen to avoid an aggravation of their difficulties in the farm sector so soon before the Williamsburg economic summit of main Western industrial nations later this month.

The prospect of the community and the U.S. competing to capture each other's markets in third countries with highly subsidised surplus farm produce threatened earlier this year to worsen already strained transatlantic relations.

Community steel exports to the U.S. have been a recurrent source of difficulty, and the community has been fighting against what it views as illegal and unilateral U.S. attempts to curb its sales of technology to Soviet bloc countries.

The diplomats said the community had partly allayed American anxieties about disposal of the Common Market's wheat surplus by its decisions to almost double its stocks this year to nearly 11 million tonnes and not to seek a bigger share of world grain markets than it already holds.

They said a danger of a trade war remained from the major build-up of dairy stocks in the U.S. and in the community.

But fears of ruinous competition in subsidised poultry exports had been lessened by a plan for talks between the Common Market and U.S. with Brazil, which is the world's other major exporter.

LONDON STOCK MARKET

LONDON (R) — Equities closed above the lows after opening easier in line with Wall Street, dealers said. The F.T. index at 1500 was down four points at 691.3.

Longer dated government bonds were around 1/2 point firmer in very quiet trading on the strength of sterling, dealers said. The treasury 10 1/2 per cent 1989 part paid tap stock was 1/4 point higher at 25 5/16.

Sotheby rose 30p to 540 on news of a possible counter bid in excess of the 520p a share offer made by GFI/Knoll International. Sotheby later fell back to 533.

Gold was firm but North Americans were mixed. ICI, which is to raise \$100 million through a seven year Eurobond convertible into sterling and with warrants to purchase shares, was down 6p at 466 after 460. Thorn EMI, up 5p at 526, advanced a further 1p to 527 following a business acquisition.

In mixed stocks, House of Fraser rose 1p to 186 but Marks and Spencer was down 5p at 216 ahead of figures due Wednesday. B.P. was up 2p at 404 after 406 but Shell was unchanged at 496 after 500. Banks lost up to 5p while Prudential was down 2p at 396 after 390 in insurances.

Hong Kong shares drifted easier in moderate trading after adverse U.K. press comment, dealers said.

LONDON EXCHANGE RATES

LONDON (R) — Following are the buying and selling rates for leading world currencies and gold against the dollar at midday on the London foreign exchange and bullion markets Tuesday.

One sterling	1.5783/93	U.S. dollars
One U.S. dollar	2.2550/53	Canadian dollars
	2.5655/75	West German marks
	2.7610/20	Dutch guilders
	2.0655/70	Swiss francs
	48.97/49.01	Belgian francs
	7.3900/30	French francs
	1463.00/1464.00	Italian lire
	237.30/45	Japanese yen
	7.4800/50	Swedish crowns
	7.0875/0925	Norwegian crowns
	8.7375/7425	Danish crowns
One ounce of gold	431.00/432.00	U.S. dollars

Asian Development Bank wrestles with China's membership question

MANILA (R) — The Asian Development Bank, its financial problems solved for the moment, faces the highly-charged political issue of Chinese membership when it opens its 16th annual meeting Wednesday.

After years of political tranquility and a long struggle to keep its coffers stocked for lending to the 28 developing countries among its 45 members, the ultra-staid Asian Development Bank (ADB) has been suddenly confronted with a country with a population of a billion people seeking admission.

Since late last year, Peking has been pressing ever more forcefully

for membership, insisting at the same time that Taiwan, a founder member, should be expelled.

Taiwan's Minister of State, Mr. Kuo Hua Yu, told reporters on arrival in Manila that "as far as I am aware no applicant for new membership had the audacity and impertinence to impose terms on the ADB regarding its application."

The nature of the board of governors' meeting, where delegation leaders from each country make set speeches untroubled by any debate, makes the prospects of fiery discussion or public controversy unlikely.

Bank sources said the United

States, which reacted strongly against Peking's insistence that Taiwan must go, was campaigning to persuade fellow ADB members to keep the issue under wraps.

The United States, together with Japan, is a major donor member.

In recent years, Pakistan has made a standard call for the admittance of the region's most populous nation and bank sources said it was almost certain to raise the issue again this year.

Bank sources said the United States, represented by Treasury Secretary Donald Regan, was expected to sidestep the China question and concentrate on ex-

pressing firm support for the ADB.

While the bank was fighting for an increase in capital resources during the past year, Washington came in for criticism for leading resistance to the ADB's plans.

It was also criticised at last year's annual meeting in Manila, when the bank was trying to replenish the Asian Development Fund (ADF), which lends on easy terms to the region's poorest nations.

A capital increase of 105 per cent to make a total of about \$16 billion and an infusion of \$3.2 billion into the ADF have lessened criticism of the Reagan administration.

Bundesbahn is heading for bankruptcy

BONN (R) — West Germany's state railway system, the Bundesbahn, is heading full steam for bankruptcy unless it slams the emergency brakes on its enormous losses and debts.

"If current losses continue, the Bundesbahn's debts will have swelled up its assets in three or four years and it will then face bankruptcy just like any private firm," a transport ministry spokesman said.

A spokesman for the Bundesbahn said debts were likely to soar to 62 billion marks (\$25 billion) by the end of 1987 compared with total assets of around 60 billion marks (\$24 billion).

The Bonn government is resisting any increase in its contribution to the railway and received a confidential report recently suggesting drastic cuts in the Bundesbahn's network and manpower.

Not will the railway be in any position to raise prices, government sources said, in view of growing competition from road transport. The Bundesbahn last

put up its prices in January by 2.5 per cent.

This year's losses are expected to exceed the provisional 4.6 billion mark (\$1.9 billion) 1982 level unless costs are curbed drastically, the Bundesbahn spokesman said.

Railway Chief Reiner Gohlke said lately that 1983 would be extremely difficult as revenue from goods traffic alone may be 500 million marks (\$200 million) below target.

Over half the Bundesbahn's goods traffic depends on the country's severely depressed iron and steel industry. "If less is produced, less needs to be transported," one Bundesbahn official said.

"We have to be realistic," Mr. Gohlke said at the Hannover trade fair. "To expect anything other than problems is illusory."

Bonn subsidises the Bundesbahn to the tune of 13.5 billion marks (\$5.5 billion) a year although it prefers to regard this as payment for special services such as cheap tickets for school children, old people and the handicapped.

The railways have called on the government to step up its aid to help save the system from insolvency. "But we can't really expect much more money when the state is in such a bad way itself," the Bundesbahn spokesman said.

The transport ministry agrees, saying its finances are already stretched to the limit.

Persistent losses led to a top management shake-up of the Bundesbahn last year which saw Mr. Gohlke taking over the controls.

The managing board chairman's first attempt at reducing costs was to cut domestic operations of the prestige Trans Europe Express (TEE), already hit by tough competition from cheaper and increasingly popular inter-city trains.

But a confidential report, presented to the Bonn government at its request, dashed all hopes of getting the lumbering rail system back on the right track.

Government sources said the report predicted total losses of 10 billion marks (\$4 billion) and a

debt burden of almost 100 billion marks (\$40 billion) by the end of the decade.

They said it suggested severe cuts in West Germany's 28,000 kilometre network, which would otherwise need large-scale modernisation.

Every kilometre of line closed costs annual losses by around 6,700 marks (\$2,700) and investment costs by \$60,000.

But only 12 kilometres of little-used local lines are to be scrapped this year which will make little difference to our deficit," the Bundesbahn spokesman said.

The report also suggests drastic cuts in the 330,000-strong work force, as labour makes up some 60 per cent of the Bundesbahn's total costs.

With unemployment running at 2.39 million or almost 10 per cent of the labour force, Bonn will find it difficult to enforce such cuts, government sources said.

Thousands of jobs have already been phased out since a 1958 high of nearly 520,000 workers, they added.

THE BETTER HALF By Harris



"How many times must I tell you — don't gripe about the price until AFTER they've given you the cone!"

Peanuts



Mutt 'n' Jeff



Andy Capp



FORECAST FOR WEDNESDAY, MAY 4, 1983

YOUR DAILY Horoscope from the Carroll Righter Institute

GENERAL TENDENCIES: Upsets that occur today can work out much to your satisfaction in the long run, so don't be disturbed by delays and obstacles. Let conditions work themselves out to your benefit.

ARIES (Mar. 21 to Apr. 19) Obtain all the information you can that's connected with new projects you have in mind. Then you will know how to proceed.

TAURUS (Apr. 20 to May 20) You may want to make some changes now in dealings you have with others, so discuss them sensibly with them.

GEMINI (May 21 to June 21) Listen to the views of associates for future benefits and cooperate more with them. Travel with utmost care.

MOON CHILDREN (June 22 to July 21) You can easily get rid of a pesky problem if you start doing something that is instead of procrastinating.

LEO (July 22 to Aug. 21) Avoid one who is detrimental to your best interests. Plan how to make your talents work more efficiently.

VIRGO (Aug. 22 to Sept. 22) Try to understand those at home better and have more harmony there. Engage in outside activities and become more affluent.

LIBRA (Sept. 23 to Oct. 22) Improve relations with allies by having serious talks with them. Plan your day better and you have more free time.

SCORPIO (Oct. 23 to Nov. 21) Delve into important work ahead of you instead of wasting time on less important matters. Be more helpful to others.

SAGITTARIUS (Nov. 22 to Dec. 21) Be sure that business affairs are running smoothly before seeking recreation. Be more optimistic.

CAPRICORN (Dec. 22 to Jan. 20) Go after the personal goals that most appeal to you and gain them easily. Handle business affairs wisely.

AQUARIUS (Jan. 21 to Feb. 19) Listening to what good friends have to say can bring you more success now. Plan how to gain your finest aims.

PISCES (Feb. 20 to Mar. 20) You can have big advancement through the unexpected today so be alert at all times. Strive for increased happiness.

IF YOUR CHILD IS BORN TODAY... he or she will comprehend various types of philosophies and should be given the finest education possible to bring out the many talents in this nature. Be sure to give ethical training early in life. A fine artist here.

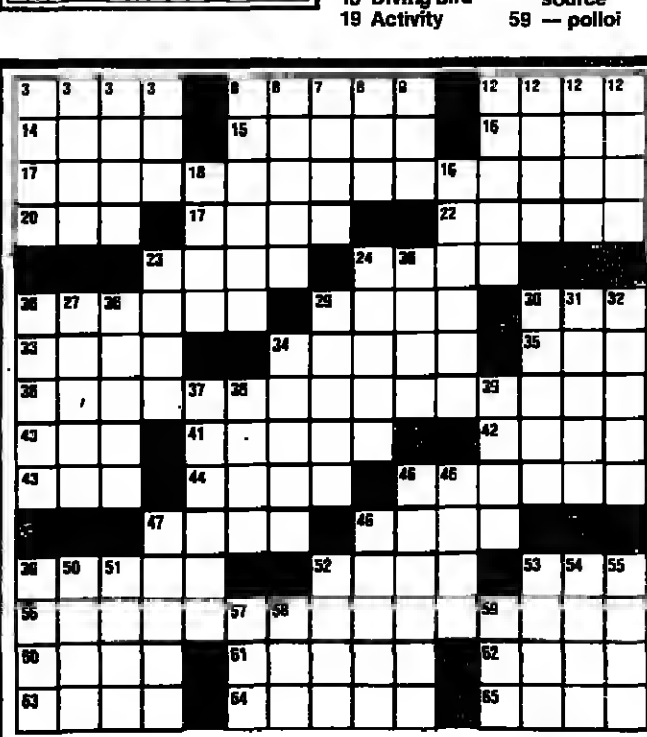
"The Stars impel, they do not compel." What you make of your life is largely up to you!

THE Daily Crossword By Alfio Micci

ACROSS	26 Casabas	48 Obligation	23 Purse item
1 Word with stone and light	29 Oasis	49 Cremona craftsman	24 Dull finish
5 Dance	30 Saloon	52 Tops	25 Entertainer
10 Prefix for john or tasse	33 Khachaturian	53 Pair	26 "Call Ma..."
14 Bedouin	34 Cook-out	56 Lat-ditch bet	28 Praises
15 Classic	35 Tell's	60 "— boy!"	29 Musician
16 Mouthward	36 Risque	61 Matric	Landowska
17 Wilder	37 Risque	62 October measure	30 Charred
20 Goal	40 Continua	63 October stons	31 Coliseum
21 River of England	41 Skirt	64 Escapes	32 Up and about
22 Ryan or Tatun	42 "— of the Thousand Days"	65 Man or Wight	34 Bosses
23 Egyptian Christian	43 My: Fr.	66 Man or Wight	37 Kind of soup
24 Distributa	44 Ibsen	67 Man or Wight	38 Bacchanalian cry
	45 heroine	68 Man or Wight	39 Gama place
	46 Plaid	69 Man or Wight	40 Pavarotti and Domingo
	47 Rescued of old flicks	70 Man or Wight	41 Encourage

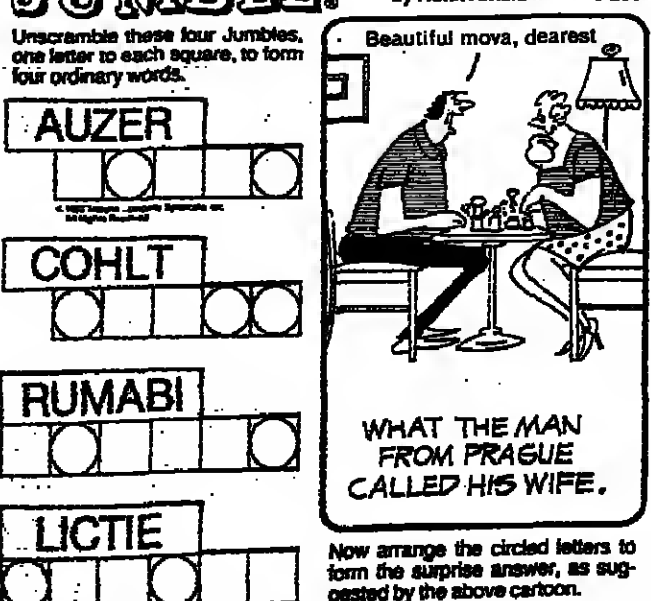
Yesterday's Puzzle Solved:

ACROSS	1. NUTTY	2. FLORA	3. WISDOM	4. DEBATE
DOWN	1. NUTTY	2. FLORA	3. WISDOM	4. DEBATE



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JUMBLE. THAT SCRAMBLED WORD GAME by Henri Arnold and Bob Lee



Yesterday's Jumble: NUTTY FLORA WISDOM DEBATE
Answer: What that filibuster in the Senate was throwing — HIS "WAIT" AROUND

Quake damage in Californian oil town estimated at \$25m

COALINGA, California (R) — Smoke from burning buildings hung over this earthquake-shattered oil town early Tuesday as police and volunteers searched under the glare of arc lights for more possible victims beneath the rubble.

At least 25 people were reported injured, down from first police estimates of between 40 and 50. Those most seriously hurt included a man with severe head wounds and two people with broken legs.

Dogs were brought in from neighbouring towns to help in the search. Roadblocks were set up around the central area and police marksmen patrolled to prevent

looting. An earthquake measuring 6.5 points on the Richter scale demolished or severely damaged 100 buildings in the town centre Monday and hundreds of other structures were slightly damaged, Coalinga information officer Bob Semple said.

"It was a miracle no one was killed, but there could still be victims under the piles of rubble in the town centre," he told reporters.

He estimated material damage in the area, about 250 kilometres north of Los Angeles, at about \$25 million.

California Governor George Deukmejian declared the town of

about 7,500 inhabitants and the surrounding region a disaster area in an effort to obtain federal government aid.

Nine hours after the quake, a jewellery shop and a bar were among buildings still burning, casting a red glow over the debris. Eleven other fires started by the tremors had been extinguished.

As rescue workers searched for more survivors, earth tremors continued to shake the area.

Electricity was restored to most of the town, but the worst hit area was in darkness apart from the arc lights.

Most of the 40 shops in Coalinga Plaza, once the heart of the town centre, were destroyed by

the earthquake. A giant clock in the Plaza had stopped at 4:40 p.m. (2340 GMT), when the earthquake struck.

Fronts of shops and homes were little more than rubble. Merchants considered themselves lucky if they were able to board up their shattered windows.

Coalinga, which took its name from a period when it was a coal loading station for the railway, became a thriving oil drilling centre in the 1950s and half its working population still have jobs in the oilfields.

On its outskirts, strawberry, lemon and onion farms have also been developed.

Polish riot police on alert

WARSAW (R) — Two days after May Day street clashes in Warsaw, security forces again moved in strength into the capital's old town Tuesday to guard against disturbances on constitution day.

Patrols of police, riot-control units in fatigues and khaki-uniformed soldiers mingled with groups of plainclothes police in narrow cobbled streets and castle square.

The square and streets leading to the district were sealed off in preparation for an official ceremony at the castle to mark the anniversary of Poland's first democratic constitution in 1791.

Columns of security force vehicles, including water cannon, stood by in neighbouring streets.

Underground leaders of the banned Solidarity union, who called the demonstrations on Sunday, have told supporters not to take part in any street rallies Tuesday but the authorities were clearly taking no chances.

Communist leader Gen. Wojciech Jaruzelski was expected to be among government and party leaders attending the ceremony at the 18th century royal castle, which was restored after being destroyed during World War II.

Tuesday is also a church holiday, for Mary Queen of Poland, in honour of the Virgin Mary, the national patron saint. Police were expected to be on the alert in case of street gatherings after mass Tuesday evening.

Solidarity leader Lech Walesa Monday reiterated a call for talks with the government but the authorities have shown no signs of contemplating such a radical reversal of policy.

Mr. Walesa, once head of the now outlawed 9.5-million-member union which posed one of the greatest challenges to communist rule in East Europe, made his latest appeal as he emerged from his shift at the Lenin shipyard in Gdansk.

He bailed the May Day rallies beneath the Solidarity banner as successful. "We wanted to show the authorities that we exist, that they should see our trade union and start talking with it," he added.

Poland sacks its best-known film-maker

WARSAW (R) — Polish authorities have sacked the country's best-known film director, Andrzej Wajda, from his post as director of a prominent Warsaw film unit, government spokesman Jerzy Urban said Tuesday.

Mr. Wajda, who has received international awards for his works, had been directing the so-called "X" unit since 1972.

Mr. Wajda's best-known films include "Ashes and Diamonds", about two right-wingers who are designated to kill a communist at the end of World War II.

In 1981 he won the Golden Palm award at the Cannes film festival with "Man of Iron", about the labour unrest in Poland and

the emergence of the Solidarity movement.

Mr. Urban said that after consultations between the culture ministry and the Communist Party Mr. Wajda and two close associates were fired because of "a singular concentration of anti-state activity" at his unit.

The associates were literary director Boleslaw Michalek and producer Barbara Pec-Slesicka, with whom Mr. Wajda worked closely on films he made in Poland.

Mr. Urban also said the authorities were not happy about the amount of work Mr. Wajda has put in at the unit. His last film,

Danton, was filmed in France and he is now working on a West German-French co-production called "Love in Germany" in Western Europe.

The dismissal of Mr. Wajda came amid a general crackdown by the authorities on cultural associations which they consider anti-socialist or which were closely associated with the banned Solidarity union.

The film-makers union, of which Mr. Wajda was president, has still not been reactivated after being suspended with all other cultural associations when martial law was declared in December, 1981.

NEWS IN BRIEF

Iranian communists told to come out

LONDON (R) — The commander of Iran's revolutionary guards corps said Monday all members of the Tudeh (Communist) Party should identify themselves immediately and report to the guards, Iran's national news agency IRNA reported. The call followed a televised confession Monday night by Tudeh Secretary-General Nouraddin Kianouri that he had spied for the Soviet Union. Revolutionary guards commander Mohsen Rezaei was quoted by IRNA as saying the guards were in control of the situation and no one else should make arrests.

Tornadoes kill 6 in 2 U.S. states

CHATAUQUA, New York (R) — Six people were killed and about 35 injured Monday night as tornadoes struck communities in Ohio and western New York state. Ohio was the worst hit, with a casualty toll of at least four dead and 23 injured. The winds were accompanied by big hailstones and more than an inch of rain fell in less than 30 minutes at Strongsville, northeast Ohio, flooding streets. June Young, 58, was killed and her husband seriously injured when a tornado lifted their car into the air and hurled it over a fence as they were driving home.

Curfew in Punjabi town extended

NEW DELHI (R) — Officials in the northern Indian town of Patiala Tuesday extended a curfew imposed Monday after clashes between Hindus and Sikhs. A shop was set on fire Tuesday morning and there were reports of stone-throwing in the old quarter of the town, the Press Trust of India (PTI) news agency reported. Six people were injured in the fighting Monday. A senior police officer told PTI that over 50 people had been arrested. The curfew was extended until late Wednesday afternoon.

75 killed in Bangladesh storms

DHAKA (R) — Fresh storms have lashed parts of Bangladesh bringing the death toll to 75 while floods have made about 50,000 people homeless in one district, official sources said Tuesday. Dhaka weather office said that rains were likely all over Bangladesh until the weekend. The death toll rose to 75 when seven people were reported killed Monday in storms that hit Dhaka, Comilla and Sylhet.

3 priests face murder charges

BACOLOD, Philippines (R) — Murder charges were filed Tuesday against three Roman Catholic priests, including an Australian and an Irishman, for the killing of a central Philippines mayor two years ago, the provincial military commander said. They were named as Father Brian Gore of Perth, Father Niall O'Brien of Dublin and Filipino Father Vicente Dangan. Col. Francisco Agudon told reporters similar charges had also been filed against 12 Filipino church workers. The charges were filed in court in Kabankalan, a mountainous region south of here, where Gore and O'Brien had been parish priests for more than 10 years. Provincial chief prosecutor Rodolfo Herman said several witnesses identified the three priests as having planned the ambush in 1981 of Pablo Zola, Mayor of Katangkalan, a town 560 kilometres southeast of Manila.

U.K. girl groom found murdered

CIRENCESTER, England (R) — Police launched a murder hunt Monday after the naked body of an 18-year-old girl groom was found at a top horse show in Western England attended by Queen Elizabeth's son-in-law, capt. Mark Phillips. Suzanne Elizabeth Thatcher, an employee of one of the competitors at the Amberley horse show, was found by a deer warden early Monday in dense undergrowth in Cirencester Park. Her clothes were lying nearby. Police said later they had charged a 25-year-old man with her murder.

Daredevil experiment planned to halt Etna lava

CATANIA, Sicily (R) — A daredevil Swede will have just 30 seconds to jump clear of a lava flow cascading down Europe's largest active volcano in an unprecedented experiment next week, Italian officials said Tuesday.

Buildings and dynamite experts began work Monday on Mount Etna's cinder-scattered slopes to divert a molten stream which has spread over eight kilometres in the last 37 days.

The plan, approved by the Italian government, calls for the excavation of between 30 and 50 holes in the lip of the main crater where Italian army explosives will be placed.

Swedish explosives expert Lennart Abersten and his assistants will have half a minute to spring away before detonating the bombs, the Italian officials said.

No precise date was announced for the blast.

If all goes well, the lava will flow down an artificial dike scraped out of the cinders and become cool before landing in a volcanic wasteland several kilometres from human habitation.

The present eruption began in March and could continue for several months, volcanologists say. It has created a five-metre wall more than 100 metres wide.

Orchards, power lines and aban-

doned huts have been consumed in the destructive advance of Etna's lava.

Mr. Abersten returned to the volcano Monday from northern Italy, where he specified the type and quantity of explosives he will need from an army centre at Domodossola in the Alps.

Loris Fortuna, civil protection minister in Italy's coalition government which resigned last Friday, said the diversion plan was unprecedented anywhere in the world.

The nearest equivalent was when U.S. experts tried to change the course of lava flow on Mauna Loa volcano in Hawaii in 1935

and 1942 by aerial bombardment, according to the minister.

While Etna continued to shoot cinders into the sky, a team of about 100 men with 70 lorries and several bulldozers and earthmovers scaled the lower slopes to begin scooping out the dynamite holes and diversionary channel.

The caretaker government agreed to act last week after volcano experts said the lava flow, edging remorselessly towards three villages, could go on for months.

Some villagers had tried in vain to halt the molten advance by holding processions with an effigy of the Virgin Mary and sprinkling holy water.

1 killed in ferry fire

STAVANGER, Norway (R) — A Czechoslovak-born man died early Tuesday in a fire aboard the Norwegian car ferry Bolero off southern Norway, police said.

The other 364 passengers and 65 crew were evacuated and brought to towns along the south coast of Norway, they said. One passenger was suffering from smoke inhalation and a second had suffered a heart attack, they added.

The 11,350-ton Bolero, owned

by Fred Olsen Company of Oslo, was sailed by the remaining crew to Egersund at Norway's southern tip. The vessel was reported to be listing as a result of water used to bring the flames under control.

Police said the fire started in a container load of aluminium waste being carried on the car deck.

The ship was on its way from Stavanger to Kristiansand and then across the Skagerrak to Hirtshals, Denmark, when the fire broke out.

Chinese Communist Party leader due in Bucharest

VIENNA (R) — China's Communist Party chief Hu Yaobang is expected in Romania Wednesday for a visit seen by Western diplomats both as part of a Chinese offensive to widen contacts with Eastern Europe and as a boost for Mr. Hu's international prestige.

In his first trip outside Asia since he took over the post of party secretary-general two years ago, Mr. Hu will also go to neighbouring Yugoslavia, spending about five days in each country.

Two members of his delegation will visit other East European countries later in the month.

Vice-Foreign Minister Qian Qichen, Peking's representative at Sino-Soviet normalisation talks, will go to Hungary, Poland and East Germany. A senior foreign ministry official, Ma Xuhong, will visit Bulgaria and Czechoslovakia. Western diplomats said these

trips seemed to signal the resumption of a political dialogue with Moscow's allies in East Europe, in parallel with efforts towards a Sino-Soviet reconciliation.

In an interview with the New China News Agency (NCNA) published in Tuesday's Bucharest newspapers, Romanian President Nicolae Ceausescu said Mr. Hu could expect an enthusiastic welcome.

Mr. Ceausescu, the only Soviet bloc leader maintaining normal state and party relations with Peking, described Mr. Hu's visit as an important landmark, and said he foresaw "lofty prospects" for the future.

Romania, which strikes a non-conformist posture in foreign policy among the Soviet Union's allies, and non-aligned Yugoslavia are China's best friends in the area.

Scepticism faces IRA's claim to have stopped 'kneecappings'

By Colin McIntyre
Reuter

BELFAST — A statement that the Irish Republican Army (IRA) in Northern Ireland has stopped its "kneecapping" punishment shootings of young delinquents has fuelled speculation that the Republican movement is trying to improve its image.

The statement about the practice of shooting offenders in the leg was made by Martin McGuinness, a leading member of Sinn Fein, the political wing of the IRA, at a ceremony earlier in April.

He said the IRA, fighting to end British rule in Northern Ireland, was now pursuing more socially involved and "preventive" methods of dealing with people it considers to be delinquents.

The number down

There has been no official confirmation of this from the IRA, but according to police the number of kneecappings was already down this year before the statement by Mr. McGuinness. Only 13 were recorded up to the end of March, compared with a normal average of 80 a year and a 1975 high of 189.

Since Mr. McGuinness' statement there has been one re-

ported Republican kneecapping but this involved a 40-year-old man and police are still investigating the circumstances.

Kneecapping has been used on young rule-breakers since the start of the sectarian troubles in Northern Ireland in the early 1970s although the practice as a method of internal IRA punishment dates back to the 1920s.

During the troubles the IRA has increasingly taken over the role of "community police" in hardline urban Catholic districts where the mainly Protestant police are regarded as a hostile force.

900 victims

IRA sources said victims, some 900 in the past 10 years, had been mainly youths thought to have been repeatedly involved in common crime. Most were Republicans although Protestant vigilante groups also indulge in the practice.

The victims are scarred for life but few suffer serious permanent disability thanks in part to the skills of surgeons at Belfast's Royal Victoria Hospital. However, in a few cases joints have been damaged, crippling the victim for life.

Some victims have been able to walk to hospital. In one mass kneecapping, victims were reported to

have all been given a coin to use to telephone for an ambulance.

Political role

The public claim that kneecappings are over has led to speculation that the IRA is trying to improve its image at a time when Sinn Fein is increasing its role in politics.

Last November Sinn Fein won five seats, taking 10 percent of the vote, in elections for the Northern Ireland assembly although they have refused to take up their seats. More recently the first Sinn Fein local government councillor for 60 years was elected in Omagh County and the party plans to contest at least 13 of the 17 Northern Ireland seats at the next British general elections.

However, Sinn Fein has said it would also boycott the Westminster Parliament as it does not recognise London's authority over Northern Ireland.

IRA sources deny any connection between kneecapping and political events. They say internal debate on the practice has been going on for five years and there was a widespread feeling it had outlived its usefulness.

Admittedly crude

The organisation recognised that kneecapping was a crude

method of dealing with what was essentially a social problem, but had been forced into it by the failure of the authorities to face up to the Catholic community's rejection of the police, the sources said.

Sources close to the IRA said most of the youths turning to crime were unemployed, bored and alienated. What was needed was to raise their social and political awareness rather than to punish them.

One IRA idea appears to be bringing the young offenders in front of community representatives so that they can see the trouble they are causing and give a personal undertaking to behave better in future. Sources said the IRA was also trying to set up more youth clubs in deprived areas.

According to an article last year in the Sinn Fein weekly Republican News, kneecapping had proved to be only a short-term deterrent at best and sometimes counter-productive.

It said some young offenders had been kneecapped two or three times and scars on the legs had become a qualification for membership of some youth gangs.

'Better the IRA'

One youth was quoted as saying that for some offences it was bet-

ter to be caught by the IRA than by the police.

"For stealing cars, if you get arrested you're going to get about one to three years. If you're done by the IRA, you're in hospital for about three weeks and you're out again," he said.

However the sources said the IRA was under great pressure from the Catholic ghetto communities to continue kneecapping as a means of keeping civil order.

"The IRA is extremely concerned with this preference for kneecapping by the community but recognise it as a product of the establishment's preoccupation with punishment rather than the rehabilitation of offenders," Republican News wrote.

Some people, including outspoken Catholic priest Father Dennis Faul, see kneecapping as part of the IRA's battle for control of the Catholic community, particularly against the breakaway Irish National Liberation Army (INLA).

Meanwhile a member of the moderate, Catholic Social Democratic and Labour Party, Mary Muldoon, said the claim that kneecapping was ended should be treated with contempt.

What was needed was not a reduction in the IRA's "barbaric behaviour", she said, but "an end to all their murderous activities."

Australians succeed in frozen embryo experiment

MELBOURNE (R) — An Australian woman is expecting a baby which spent the first four months of its existence stored in a deep freeze, a university medical research team said.

Team members told a press conference Monday was the first time a human pregnancy had been achieved from a frozen embryo, although the technique had been used with animals.

The breakthrough was made by Australia's pioneering test tube baby research group based at Monash University and the Queen Victoria and Epworth hospitals in Melbourne.

The woman, who has not been identified, is now 14 weeks pregnant. All tests so far have shown the foetus is normal and healthy, said the team's scientific director, Dr. Alan Trounson.

Two other women are waiting

to discover if they are also pregnant with previously frozen embryos, he added.

Dr. Trounson said the woman's fallopian tubes were blocked, preventing a normal pregnancy. Four eggs were removed, fertilised in a test tube, and three were later reimplanted. The fourth was frozen at minus 196 Centigrade. The woman became pregnant but miscarried after eight weeks. The team thawed the remaining embryo which had been stored in liquid nitrogen for four months and implanted it.

The only damage suffered during storage was the penetration of two of the embryo's eight cells by ice crystals.

Dr. Trounson said: "It is known that with a mouse you can cause damage to quite a lot of cells and still get formation of a normal embryo."

GOREN BRIDGE

BY CHARLES GOREN

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A TIME TO FORGET

Both vulnerable. South deals.

NORTH

♠ 855

♥ 42

♦ QJ6543

♣ 84

WEST

♠ J10974

♥ 863

♦ Void

♣ AK32

EAST

♠ 32

♥ Q10975

♦ A1098

♣ 65

SOUTH

♠ AKQ

♥ AK

♦ K72

♣ QJ1097

The bidding:

South West North East

2NT Pass 3NT Pass

Pass Pass

Opening lead: Jack of ♠.

When you learn to play

bridge, you are taught many general principles. But it is wise to remember that those principles are just guidelines — individual cases sometimes require unusual treatment.

North had a choice of two actions after his partner opened the bidding with two no trump—a slightly aggressive raise to three no trump in the hope that partner could use his six-card suit, which was North's choice, or a pass. There was no point in introducing the diamond suit, because an 11-trick contract was almost beyond the limit of the combined holdings.

Declarer was fortunate that West had a natural spade lead—the contract would have foundered had the other major been led. Declarer won in hand, and if he followed one of the basic precepts that he had been taught, he would have led a

low diamond toward dummy's honors. As the cards lie, he would have failed. East could win the ace and shift to a heart. Now when declarer finds that diamonds do not break, he has no time to set up a ninth trick before the defenders have the hearts established.

But declarer had available a pretty counter. At trick two he led the king of diamonds. East could not afford to win this trick. If he did and shifted to a heart, declarer would simply win and duck a diamond. East would win and return another heart, but now declarer could take four diamond tricks to bring his total to nine.

So East was forced to duck, but that proved to be no better. Declarer needed no more than one diamond trick and the tempo. He abandoned diamonds and went after clubs, and he was one step ahead of the defense. West took the king of clubs and shifted to a heart, but it was too late. Declarer won and forced out the ace of clubs, and he had nine tricks via three aces, two hearts, a diamond and three clubs.

Hand 100